



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
WWW.MUSCOGEENATION-NSN.GOV - COMMUNICATIONS@MUSCOGEENATION-NSN.GOV

FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit # 14
Okmulgee, OK
74447



Volume 36, Issue 3

P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447

March 2006

INSIDE FEBRUARY'S ISSUE

TRIBAL - SECTION A



Inside Section A of *The Muscogee Nation News*: A message from the desk of the Speaker p. 3; Creek man president of Native American Bank p. 4; and Tobacco prevention post signs for policy p. 5; Okmulgee county high school students awarded scholarship p. 8.

FEATURES - SECTION B



Section B of *The Muscogee Nation News*: Native American History series p.1; Pastor's Corner with Wesley Berry p.3; Creek film maker enjoys media success p.5; March Madness tournament p. 8.

SCENE - SECTION C



Section C of *The Muscogee Nation News*: Carlisle Story to hit Silver Screen p. 1; Tulsa Indian art festival p. 2; Creek Nation Tulsa and Okmulgee Gaming Promotions p. 3; and Simple Simons Calizones, food review p. 4.

THIS MONTH'S REMINDER

The third annual Ceremonial Grounds/Mekko meeting will be held on April 8, in the Mound building from 10 a.m. until approximately noon. These meetings were initially setup by Chief A.D. Ellis to open doors of communication between the Nation and the Grounds. Therefore, an invitation is extended to the Grounds/Mekkos and two guests.

Reintegration Program holds open house, ready to assist citizens



Pictured from left to right: Chubby Anderson, Danna Smith, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Tony Fish, and Andrea Alexander
photo by Jennifer Taryole

by STARLA BUSH
MNN Staff Writer

HENRYETTA — On March 3, the Reintegration Program held its open house. The open house was attended by Second Chief Berryhill, program participants, Department of Corrections, and many others in support of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program.

In August of 2004, Keeper Johnson, Okmulgee District representative created and presented a bill before the National Council to start a new program for the tribe. The "Reintegration Program" bill was passed and became active on March 21, 2005.

This program is designed to assist Creek citizens, who have been incarcerated or soon to be released, with

the opportunity to benefit from the Reintegration Program services, such as mentoring/faith-based support, personal counseling and guidance, identification retrieval, job preparation and placement, educational advisor and assistance in meeting immediate needs.

"The RiP Program helps make our communities and neighborhoods safer by providing opportunities for ex-felons to better their lives. Life sustaining needs are met first (i.e. shelter and food). Clothing, job advocacy and referrals to appropriate services are given based on the client's needs. You have to ask yourself one question: Do I feel safer with ex-felons walking the streets with no where to go, no food to eat or clothes

on their back or do I feel safer with their participation in a program where they can learn responsibility and take steps to become a productive citizen. Often times offender recidivism is the end result from the desperation our people face. Everybody that is human has made mistakes from time to time and in most cases the offender is the one who was the one caught. "Together We Can Make A Difference" is a way of giving a hand up instead of a hand out" states Program Coordinator, Tony Fish.

For more information about the Reintegration Program, call (918) 652-2676 or (800) 259-1059 which is located at 112 West Gentry.

Special election official results

PROPOSITION 1: NCA 05-105 will be asking citizens to consider if they wish to amend the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation by substituting the phrase "The Muscogee (Creek) Nation" with "Mvskoke Etlvlv" and substituting "Muscogee" or "Muscogee (Creek)" with "Mvskoke".

In favor 510 received 44.89%, Against, 626 received 55.11%

PROPOSITION 2: NCA 05-106 - Shall Article IX be amended to add a new § 2 as follows: (A) A Constitutional Convention shall be convened. The Convention shall decide the date of the next Constitutional Convention. (B) The Constitutional Convention membership shall consist of eligible voters of the Nation. (C) A Constitutional Convention Commission is hereby established and shall have the administrative responsibility and authority to conduct the Constitutional Convention. The Constitutional Convention Commission shall consist of one (1) person from each of the three branches of Government and one (1) person from each District selected by the Caucus of the National Council Representative of each respective district. In the event any district Caucus fails to make its appointment to the Commission on or before the first day of March in a convention year the seated members of the Commission shall have the authority to nominate and fill any vacancy. (D) The Constitutional Commission shall organize and promulgate rules and regulations in February and proceed to carry out the process of a Constitutional Convention at will ensure citizen input and participation from throughout the Nation, completing their work on or before next February. The Commission shall conduct public hearings throughout the Nation to accept citizen views on constitutional amendments, revisions, alterations or additions and shall prepare a public report of all proposed amendments, revisions, alterations and additions. The Constitutional Convention Commis-

sion shall then work with the Election Board to prepare wording for separate ballots for each amendment, revision, alteration or addition to be submitted to the citizens at the election, completing with work on or before the last day of February. (E) Constitutional Convention amendments, alterations, revisions or new articles proposed by such Convention shall be submitted to the eligible voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at a Special Election, called by the Principal Chief within one hundred eighty (180) days, unless there is a General election within one hundred eighty (180) days, and approved by a majority of the eligible voters voting thereon before the same shall be effective. (F) The National Council shall enact such laws as are necessary to ensure a Constitutional Convention is conducted. The National Council shall appropriate necessary funds to accomplish the Constitutional Convention.

In favor, 864 76.53%, Against, 265 23.47%
PROPOSITION 3: NCA05-151 - Shall Article VI, § 2(a) be amended to read as follows: Each representative shall be elected by a vote of the district and shall hold office for four (4) years. These terms of office shall be staggered to ensure that one-half of the Council stands for election every two (2) years. Beginning with the first election after this amendment is approved, those persons filing for B and D seats shall serve for a period of two (2) years and those persons filing for A, C and E Council seats shall serve for a period of four (4) years. The B and D seats will stand for election in two years at which time the B and D seats shall commence a four-year term."

In favor 785 received 69.96%, Against 337 received 30.04%

PROPOSITION 4: NCA05-195 - Shall Article IX, Section 1 (a)(1), of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution be amended to clarify 2/3rds of full membership of the National Council for approval of a Constitutional Amendment.

In favor 933 received 82.20%, Against 202 received 17.80%

Chief Ellis participates in reading program

OKMULGEE — On March 3, Chief Ellis made time in between tobacco compact meetings, a Coweta site inspection, and master site planning meetings, to read a Dr. Seuss Classic, "I'm Not Going To Get Up Today," to the Pre-K and Kindergarten classes at the Okmulgee Primary School as part of the National Education Association's Read Across America. Ms. Lindsey, a Kindergarten teacher, coordinated the events throughout the week with different speakers and different themes.

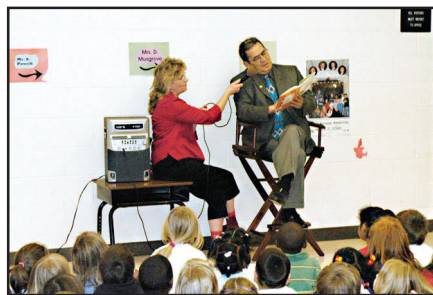
National Education Association's Read Across America is an annual reading motivation program that calls for every child

in every community to celebrate reading on or around the late Dr. Seuss's birthday.

Throughout the nation teachers, teenagers, politicians, actors, athletes, parents/grandparents, Governors, Mayors and other elected officials recognized the role reading plays in their communities with proclamations and floor statements.

The program is to motivate children that reading is an important factor in student achievement and creating lifelong successful readers. Research has shown that children who are motivated and spend more time reading do better in school.

For more information, visit their website at: www.nea.org.



Communications Department to utilize website

TULSA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department is in the midst of introducing groundbreaking media exposure of the Nation to its citizens.

By accessing the Nation's website address, www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov, tribal citizens will now have the opportunity to get an up-close look at tribal happenings while not necessarily being in a close vicinity to the tribal capital.

In April, live streaming of the Creek

Nation Radio Program, which is locally carried on KOKLAM 1240, will be available in a link, as well as the new *Muscogee Nation News Monthly* television show, that until this innovation had only been available to citizens in Tulsa, Henryetta, Muskogee and Okmulgee that were subscribers to Cox cable.

Now, citizens from all over can enjoy and be informed about their government, regardless of where they reside.

Office of the Principal Chief

by Chief A.D. Ellis

Hello again,
Today is March 3rd and just this morn-
ing I enjoyed
one hour of
reading a book
to about 100
kindergarten
students in Ok-
mulgee. Seeing
the patience
that our teach-
ers have to
teach these
youngsters is
amazing, but
this is our future
and they must be
taught.
Many very exciting
things are begin-
ning to happen
throughout our
Creek Nation.



Most all casinos are expanding to produce
additional revenue, our major casinos are gen-
erating larger numbers and we must invest
wisely to ensure our citizens are receiving
their just rewards in services. The Council
has ok'd all legislation necessary and I want
to see construction started in April on our new
basketball gym and all purpose building. Plans
are also under way to propose to the Na-
tional Council a four or five story new office
complex south of the mound building. With
this we could combine the complete tribal gov-
ernment under one roof. Also, all Tribal of-
fices from O.S.U. and downtown could be
relocated to the complex area. This would
enable our citizens to reach any department
at the complex.
March 5th I will travel to Washington

D.C. to lobby for continued funding of our
JOM program. Their have been calls in Con-
gress to stop funding this program and we
are totally against this.
We also will be lobbying for more health
money, more authority in fighting crime, sup-
port for putting land in trust and economic
development.
Under construction now on the com-
plex is the head start building, bus transit build-
ing and very soon work will start on the new
Attorney General's building, Veterans build-
ing and Lighthouse Police building.
This nation is growing like never be-
fore and we must make progress while the
economy in our nation is on the upward swing.
Everything that is being done and all future
plans are very well thought out to serve our

people.
Again, I salute our tribal employees,
managers and directors for carrying out our
plans for a greater future. In my State of the
Nation presentation, I promised a decent pay
raises for our lower level and middle employ-
ees. This is being addressed at this time and
will be put into this year's budget.
Thanks to everyone and their prayers
for all of us and we will continue to do our
best for this nation.

Quote of the Month
"During the war between the Creeks
and Cherokees many years ago the
Cherokee's would throw dynamite at the
Creeks. The Creeks would light it and
throw it back."

Second Opinion

by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

I want to apologize for being silent
the last two months of publication. It seems
every time I get ready to sit down and write
something comes up.
Without fur-
ther adieu, I
am printing
more ex-
cerpts from
the book titled
Red Man's
Land White
Man's Law,
Second Edi-
tion by Wilcomb E. Washburn.
I will start on page 18: "Today the
character of the American Indian is gener-
ally drawn in a derogatory manner. The
views of the first explorers and missionar-
ies, who frequently saw heroic qualities in
the Indian and whose reports provided the
basis for the earlier literary conception of
the "noble savage," have long since been
buried in the shifting sands of more recent
intellectual movements. None of the stud-
ies of "the myth of the noble savage" con-
siders the possibility that the early favorable
observers of Indian character might not have
been entirely deceived in their analysis. All
such studies assume that any degree of no-



bility was a myth:so far have white arrogance
and Indian abasement proceeded.
Another common charge against the
Indians, which became the basis of the most
popular eighteenth- and nineteenth-century
justification for dispossessing them, was that
they were wandering hunters with no settled
habitations. This mode of securing their live-
lihood, it was charged, was too wasteful in a
world in which other countries faced (or
thought they faced) problems of overpopula-
tion. The argument that hunters might justly
be forced to alter their economy by a pastoral
or agricultural people was voiced by many,
humble and great, in the colonies and in En-
gland. John Locke was later expressed most
succinctly by Theodore Roosevelt, who wrote
that "the settler and pioneer have at bottom
had justice on their side; this great continent
could not have been kept as nothing but a
game preserve for squalid savages."
Again, was not the European creating
the myth he wished to use? Were the Indians
in fact nomadic hunters? It was of course,
possible to find examples of the eastern coast,
those referred to by the early theorists, de-
pended upon hunting as an important part of
their economy and an integral function of their
social and religious life. But agriculture was
also a conspicuously essential part of Indian
subsistence, and we may regard with suspi-

cion much of the literature of justification
which overlooks this aspect of native life. The
English knew well enough how important was
Indian food: the early accounts are filled with
references to the "Indian fields" along the
rivers of Virginia and little else but native pro-
duce sustained the whites in the early years
of settlement. It was the Indians who taught
the settlers techniques of agriculture, as the
familiar story Squanto and the Plymouth
Colony relates, and the Virginia colonists also
were instructed by the
Indians on how to plant crops and how
to retrieve food from the rivers and bays.
The natives were hunters, but they were also,
and probably more importantly, agriculturists
and fishermen.
The literature of justification similarly
tends to overlook the fact that the Indians
were, for the most part, town dwellers. The
great body of contemporary graphic depic-
tions in French, Spanish and English sources
of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries
shows substantial dwellings, palisaded villages,
well-planned streets, garden plots, civic and
religious centers. Indeed, throughout most of
the seventeenth century in Virginia the only
true town dwellers were the Indians; the En-
glish lived together compactly only during the
fearful early years."
It is no wonder that our people of to-

day who live in Oklahoma are not truly aware
of the most noble and glorious history of our
past. Today, some of us are most fortunate to
get a glimpse of the Ocmulgee Mounds in
Macon, GA. It was at the onset of encroach-
ment by the Europeans that a vast land was,
so called, "discovered". What would you do
if you were under orders by the Queen of a
country to claim lands that were uninhabited
or inhabited by people that didn't fit the mold
of European social customs.
Can you imagine claiming a land and
then being met by other people and they take
you into their town and treat you to a feast.
Then looking at a well planned city that has a
huge temple mound and housing that is far
superior than what they were use to. It's no
wonder that their first thought of conquering
the people would focus first on the high priest.
They had to destroy our religion and subject
us to understand and become believers in a
religion that they didn't even believe in. Our
life-style depended on spirituality and belief in
the supernatural. We had in our lore that there
was a son God and that this son God had a
son who came to earth and died and res-
urrected.
In the next article, I will print an-
other excerpt which will deal with the
idea behind removal of Indians to one
specified area. *Mvto*

January District Court filings
Continued

Criminal Felonies:
• MCN v. Mark Tate
Ct. 1 Possession of illegal drug paraphernalia
Ct. 2. Carrying Concealed Weapon
• MCN v. Timothy Walker
Ct. 1. Possession of illegal drug paraphernalia
Protective Orders:
• Jeana Bales and on Behalf of Minor Child Dylon
N. Froehlich v. Nathan C. Froehlich
Ex-Parte
• Jeana Bales and on Behalf of Minor Child Dylon
N. Froehlich v. Nathan C. Froehlich
Ex-Parte
• Jeana Bales and on Behalf of Minor Child Fylon
N. Froehlich v. Nathan C. Froehlich
Ex-Parte
• Jeana Bales and on Behalf of Minor Child Dylon
N. Froehlich v. Nathan C. Froehlich
Ex-Parte
Civil:
• Phillip Glass v. St. Paul Travelers Bond a/k/a St.
Paul Travelers Insurance Co. a/k/a/ St. Paul In-

surance Co. a/k/a/ Travelers Insurance Co.
Complaint
• MCN v. Margie McDaniel
Petition
• Community Hospital Lakeview v. Deborah and/
or Larry Deere
Small Claims
• Days Inn v. Terry Cook
Small Claims
• Car-Mart of Sapulpa v. Natalie Hickman
Small Claims
• St. John Sapulpa, formerly Bartlett Memorial
Medical Center v. Tammy Woodward
Foregin Judgment
• Discover Bank v. Tabby Colburn
Foreign Judgment
• Alicia Stroble v. Nelson Johnson, individually
and in his official capacity as Chairman of the
MCN Office of Public Gaming, Cherokee J. Hicks,
individually and in her capacity as Labor Rela-
tions Coordinator for the MCN
Petition
• Dixie Finance v. Kimberly Martin
Small Claims

• Courtesy Loans v. Rhonda Jim
Small Claims
• Courtesy Loans v. Joyce Watson
Small Claims
• Courtesy Loans v. Lona Lamb
Small Claims
• Tower Loans v. Rhonda Jim
Small Claims
• Tower Loans v. Joyce Watson
Small Claims

NOTICE

Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Inc. of
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma is seeking contact with
and/or information concerning the whereabouts
of the following persons regarding an oil and gas
lease in Sec. 28-08N-08E, Seminole County, Okla-
homa: Susan Johnson Stuart, Frank Johnson,
Roman Johnson, Rowena Johnson, Bobby J.
Davis, Ronald Gene Meely, a/k/a Ronald Meely,
Bartemus Newman, Katie Johnson Harjo, Tho-
mas Johnson, Jr., Wilbur Johnson, Cynthia
Johnson Wilson, a/k/a Cynthia, Johnson Castro,
Vincent Harjo, Lena, Johnson, a/k/a Lena M.

Johnson, Jimmie McGirt, Floyd Johnson, Shirley
McGirt Tiger, Bobby McGirt, Randy McGirt, Paul
McGirt, Sally McGirt, a/k/a Sally McGirt Welch,
Kenneth McGirt, and Wynette McGirt Hulbutta.
If you are listed above or have information
regarding the whereabouts of such persons,
please contact us at the following number:
Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Inc., 2525
NW Expressway, Suite 312, Oklahoma City, OK
73112 or call collect at (405) 286-9326.

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to **The Muscogee Nation News**, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in **The Muscogee Nation News**, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of **The Muscogee Nation News**, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7637 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Cvpose Leila Wetumke likiyet os
I recently traveled to visit my family
back home in Wetumka and subsequently
got snowed in during the recent ice storm. I
ventured out from house to house visiting
with friends and family and my last sched-
uled stop was to visit with my family's el-
dest member Leila Barnett-Barnes who just
recently celebrated her 82nd birthday on Val-
entines Day and believe me she is the sweet-
est person you could ever wish to meet. I
walked in her house after she very slowly
walked back to her seat after getting up to
let me in and I immediately noticed that house
was a little cool. After we'd exchanged
greetings I asked her if she was warm
enough and said that her heater had been
out for a while. I asked what the problem
was and it was uncertain at that time. I
immediately made a call to the Mvskoke
Etvlvwv and spoke to Joellen Frank in Hous-
ing. Mrs. Frank explained over the phone

what was required to get the process started
and it sounded like it was going to take a
while. Once I explained to her that Grandma's
situation required immediate attention she
called another person in housing and they im-
mediately contacted the service technician
Ken Miller. I had the application for emer-
gency assistance signed and returned it to
the Housing office and Mr. Miller was at
grandma's house shortly after I got back from
Okmulgee. He was extremely polite and
thoughtful and fixed the problem very quickly.
Needless to say grandma was very
happy to see how fast that the problem could
be fixed and I saw her eyes tear up with the
happiness she was experiencing. I quickly had
to change the subject because I didn't want
her to start crying then I would have started!
I took it upon myself to go to the Executive
Directors office, Mr. Claude Sumner to let
him know that our family really appreciated
the service that the housing staff provided for
our elder. I believe there are sincere employ-

ees there who believe in our traditional ways
and hold our elders in the highest regards;
this scenario helps me to believe that. I also
feel that we must check with these elders
to ensure that their needs are met, too many
times our elders will need something and it
just isn't their way to ask for something that
they can do without, that is where we come
in it is our responsibility to reach out to these
elders and ensure that they are as comfort-
able as possible. I for one would love for
the Nation to do a survey other than a cen-
sus and get a true understanding of our el-
ders' quality of life and put forth more ef-
fort to see that their needs are met.
Mr. Miller has worked for the
MCN housing program for 10 years and is a
great employee, he represents the
Mvskoke Nation very well and he is wel-
come back at any time. Keep up the good
work Ken. Henks Ce! Mvskokv!ke, mv'to
cekiyvkis ci! Mvskoke Etehkvlke.
Nathan Anderson, Lawrence, KS

From the desk of the Speaker:

Hensci!

The first two months of the 14th Session of the National Council has been filled with much anticipation and expectations.

My first meeting as Speaker with the Second Speaker was for considerations in making appointments to the four Standing Committees. The appointment process was long and tedious. After final appointments, it reflects a well rounded membership to each committee. The committees have settled in and are addressing legislation in a timely manner and then presented to the National Council for consideration. I received a number of phone calls during the recent election on the questions for voting by our tribal members. Many concerns were raised and the Chief and I visited about these concerns. We agreed these concerns needed to be addressed and with the Business and Governmental Committee having oversight of the Election Board, they would be holding meetings to look into these concerns in the near future.

The National Council recently employed a Legislative Liaison Affairs/Writer for the purpose to continuous efforts of im-

proving the line of communications. In addition this position will be responsible for research on legislation on the state and national levels that affect tribal government. One of the responsibilities of this position will be to work with the Communications department to develop a web site for the National Council. There will be more information available concerning legislation that will be addressed. The goal will be the ability for tribal members to have an agenda for the monthly meetings posted so those that watch the web cast can follow along with the meeting. In addition, pertinent information regarding upcoming legislation will be made available for review. I encourage our tribal members to contact their representatives with questions and comments about their government. Remember, any in-



formation regarding your tribal government is your right to receive as it is considered public information.

In our efforts in working with all governmental entities at the state or national level on a government to government basis our

goal is to have opportunities for discussions to be held. Recently, tobacco compacts between Tribes and the State of Oklahoma have been the heavy topic of discussions. For well over a year, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been unable to negotiate a tobacco compact with the state. Previous meetings held with the state, to a certain degree, were held with a take or leave it attitude by the state. The Muscogee (Creek)

Nation's attitude was to leave it and it's been that way until this week.

An interest by Oklahoma State Treasurer Scott Meacham has been expressed in renewing dialogue with Creek Nation on this

issue. Hopefully a meeting will be a beginning to an agreement that everyone can feel comfortable with concerning the tobacco industry in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Oklahoma State Senate Bill No. 1706 is of great interest to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. In the early years of Indian Housing, Tribal housing authorities were considered as state agencies. This practice allowed for the federal funds to go to the state or state agencies because Indian tribes were not eligible for housing authority purposes at that time. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is currently eligible to receive housing authority funds and has for a number of years to provide housing to its tribal members. This bill would allow for the tribe to assume the liabilities of the state agency housing authority and receive the assets of the state agency housing authority. In essence, Muscogee (Creek) Nation would assume the management and control. The bill passed by a vote of 46 in favor and 0 against in the Senate. Now it will go to the Oklahoma House for a vote.

On behalf of the National Council, thank you for the encouragement and most of all your prayers on our journey of representing you to the best of our ability.

Unitl next time, MVTO!

The Palen-Sostohkakat 14th session of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council

By: Rita Williams, Liason Writer

Under the Preamble and Constitution Sec. 101: Supremacy of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution and Tribal Ordinances, the 1979 Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and tribal laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are declared to be the supreme law and,

Sec. 104. "The Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall determine the rules of its proceedings" - (Article VI, Section 4. (B) of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution). In accordance with the RULES OF PROCEDURES OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL enacted by NCR 03-002 Section 112. Duties of the Speaker/Second Speaker (The Speaker with the consent of the Second Speaker, has the authority of making committee assignments) I. Appoint Standing Committee Members: The Speaker shall have the authority to appoint any and all members to the four (4) established standing committees: 1) Business and Governmental: 2) Tribal Affairs: 3) Human Development: 4) Community Services and Cultural. When the need arises, only the Speaker may make reassignment of members to the Standing Committees after consultation with respective parties and with the approval of the Internal Affairs Committee. Section 117. Committees Establishment and Jurisdiction: A. There shall exist four (4) Standing Committees: Business and Governmental Operations, Tribal Affairs, Human Development and Community Services and Cultural. There shall be established Select/Sitting Committees as needed and determined by the Council.

B. General Committee Rules and Formation: Members of Standing Committees and Select Committee on Internal Affairs shall be appointed by the Speaker. The number of Representatives per committee shall be at least six (6) and no more than nine (9) voting members with the exception of Select/Sitting Committees. Further, these Rules of Procedure are the rules of the Committee as far as applicable.

C. Standing Committee Oversight Responsibilities: Each Standing Committee shall review and study, continuously, the application, administration, execution and effectiveness of those laws, in part or in whole, the subject matter of which falls under their jurisdiction. Each Standing Committee shall examine, review and study the organization and operation of the Nation, its tribal agencies and entities to determine whether the intent in which such agencies and entities were established are being implemented and carried out. Each Standing Committee shall examine, review, and study whether such agencies and entities should be continued, curtailed, or eliminated.

The role and responsibility of each standing committee are as follows:

BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATION: Legislative Clerk: Jennifer Edwards

Chairman Roger Barnett, (Creek District) Vice-Chair Anthony Notaro, (McIntosh District) Shirlene Aide, (Tukvptce District) Sam Alexander, (Tulsa District) Pete Beaver, (Muskogee District) Bill Fife, (Okfuskee District)

The Business and Governmental Committee shall have proper jurisdiction over the budget of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; Finances of the Nation; Intergovernmental and Intra Governmental Policy; Tax Commission; Contractual Agreements; the Citizenship Board; the Election Board; Tribal Legal Operations (Judicial/Office of Attorney General); Gaming Operations Authority Board; Economic Development. The B&G Committee shall be responsible for drafting the National Council fiscal budget with assistance from the Financial Officer and Speaker.

TRIBAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: Legislative Clerk: Rebecca Crowels

Chairman Ronald Cleghorn, (Tulsa District) Vice-Chair Larry Bible, (Tulsa District) Thomas McIntosh, (McIntosh District) Jeff Fife, (Okmulgee District) Eddie LaGrone, (Muskogee District) Robert Jones, (Okmulgee District).

The Committee on Tribal Affairs shall have proper jurisdiction over issues concerning Real Property; Contractual Agreements; Gaming, Manufacturing and Travel Plaza Management; Facilities Management; Crime/Lighthorse; Game and Wildlife; Economic Development; Comprehensive Planning; Housing Construction, Maintenance and Improvement; Environmental Services; Cultural Preservation (Realty); Road Improvement Program and other Tribal Affairs functions.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Legislative Clerk: Jayme Spaniard

Chairman Thomas Yahola, (Tukvptce District) Vice-Chair Johnnie Greene, (Wagoner District) Richard Berryhill, (Wagoner District) Duke Harjo, (Creek District) James Jennings, (Okmulgee District) Keeper Johnson, (Okmulgee District).

The Committee on Human Development shall have proper jurisdiction over Education including but not limited to, Higher Education Scholarships, Counseling and College Entrance Assistance, Financial Aid Information, Adult GED Certificate Programs, Vocational Training Assistance, and Job Search Training and Placement Information to unemployed and under employed persons, Young Adult (teenage) Programs: Eufaula Dormitory Student Body and Staff; Eufaula Dormitory School Board; Cultural Preservation (Academic); and other related Human Development functions.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE:

Legislative Clerk: Rebecca Mitschelen

Chairman Tom Pickering, (McIntosh District) Vice-Chair Lena Wind, (Okfuskee District) Sylvanna Caldwell, (Tulsa District) Paula Willits, (Tulsa District) Travis Scott, (Okfuskee District) Bo Johnson, (Okmulgee District).

The Committee on Community Services and Cultural shall have proper jurisdiction over Health and Human Services; Indian Child Welfare Program; Community Organization and Development; Cultural/Historical Research; Cultural Preservation and Enrichment; the Hospital and Health Systems Board including but not limited to Health Care to individual citizens, and other related Community Services/Cultural Services.

SELECT COMMITTEES ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS:

Chairman Thomas Yahola, Sylvanna Caldwell (alt), Vice-Chair Pete Beaver, Eddie LaGrone (alt), Johnnie Greene, Richard Berryhill (alt), Duke Harjo, Roger Barnett (alt), Bo Johnson, Jeff Fife (alt), Tom Pickering, Anthony Notaro (alt), Cherrah Quiett, Sam Alexander (alt), Travis Scott, Bill Fife (alt).

The National Council shall establish and maintain a Select Committee on Internal Affairs, One (1) member from each District shall be selected by the respective District Representative . The Internal Affairs Committee shall have proper jurisdiction over National Council matters such as personnel issues, policies and procedures, parliamentary procedures, and Tribal citizen's complaints against National Council Members.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON FACT-FINDING AND INVESTIGATIONS:

Chairman Thomas Yahola, Sylvanna Caldwell (alt), Vice-Chair Pete Beaver, Eddie LaGrone (alt), Johnnie Greene, Richard Berryhill (alt), Duke Harjo, Roger Barnett (alt), Bo Johnson, Jeff Fife (alt), Tom Pickering, Anthony Notaro (alt), Cherrah Quiett, Sam Alexander (alt), Travis Scott, Bill Fife (alt).

The National Council shall establish and maintain a Select Committee on Internal Affairs, One (1) member from each District shall be selected by the respective District Representative . The Internal Affairs Committee shall have proper jurisdiction over National Council matters such as personnel issues, policies and procedures, parliamentary procedures, and Tribal citizen's complaints against National Council Members.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON FACT-FINDING AND INVESTIGATIONS:

Chairman Roger Barnett, Duke Harjo (alt), Vice-Chair Jeff Fife, Bo Johnson (alt), Shirlene Ade, Sylvanna Caldwell (alt), Richard Berryhill, Johnnie Greene (alt), Eddie LaGrone, Pete Beaver (alt), Anthony Notaro, Thomas McIntosh (alt), Paula Willits, Larry Bible (alt), Lena Wind, Bill Fife (alt).

The National Council shall establish and maintain a Fact-Finding and Investigations Committee, One (1) member from each district shall be selected by the respective District Representatives. The proper jurisdiction shall include the investigation with subpoena powers of any alleged irregularities that exist in any branch, entity, subdivision and/or unit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Matters to be investigated shall be determined as established by ordinance and/or by the majority of the Fact Finding Committee. Each District shall have one additional member to serve as an alternate in the absence of respective District Representative.

COMMITTEE STAFF: National Council Secretary: Terry Cook

Article VI Section 5. (B) The Muscogee (Creek) National Council, shall choose its own secretary whose compensation shall be provided by ordinance.

The National Council Secretary shall make staff assignments to the Standing Committees with approval of the Speaker. The Select Committees of Internal Affairs and Fact Finding shall be staffed by the Committee Secretary of the National Council from wherein the subject matter of the issue being discussed lies (Jurisdiction).

Schumacher Funeral Home

Ron Schumacher is Announcing

Two new additions to our staff with over

80 years of combined experience to better serve you

Bob McLemore and Patty Fletcher



Honoring Muscogee Creek Traditions

130 W. 8th St.
Bristow, OK 74010
918.367.2244

1321 W. Columbia
Okemah, OK 74859
918.623.1133

Two Locations to serve your needs:

B.I.A. & Tribal Burial Funds may include a complete Funeral Service

Haskell hosts Region IV AISES Conference

LAWRENCE, KAN — Bucculae the Haskell American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES) Chapter is holding the Region IV AISES Conference to be held on April 1at the Haskell Indian Nations University. This year’s conference is in conjunction with the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) National Basketball Tournament also at Haskell University.

Haskell is located in Lawrence, Kansas with 907 Native American students who represent over 150 tribes from across the United States. In 1884, Haskell was established as a grade school and throughout the years developed into a 4-year university. Today, Haskell offers several Baccalaureate Degrees with many students graduating in several fields striving for successful futures.

This year’s conference will have a new twist challenging each of the exhibitors who chose to participate in a 5 minute presentation. What can you do with 5 minutes? Conference participants will include several High School students from both the Oklahoma and Kansas school systems who are only looking to find a new future, and we gladly accept their attendance through our already successful AISES family!!! As some of you may already know, we will have several college AISES Chapters attending from

the 6 states within our region including, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and Arkansas. With the combination of the AIHEC basketball tournament, this can be a unique opportunity for each and every exhibitor to find that one individual who can make a difference in both your company’s and his/her futures.

The Career Fair at the AISES conference will provide you with an opportunity to display your information and/or recruit for positions within your organization. The event will begin with a continental breakfast from 8:00-9:30 am. Table displays will be open to students from 10 am – 3 pm. Participants need to provide their own audiovisual equipment, electrical cords and other accessories they may need.

The Career Fair fee will be \$100 and space is reserved on a “first come, first serve” basis. Please return your registration form and fee by March 24, 2006. A request that each exhibitor provide a donation of an item needed for door prizes to be held throughout the day’s event representing your organization.

Anyone interested in participating in the AISES Career Fair, complete and return the form by March 24. If additional information is needed, call (785) 840-7734.

First Annual American Indian Small Business Expo

Reprinted from *Native American Times* with permission.

DENVER CO — Participants from American Indian tribes, Indian small business owners and cultural tourism specialists are joining with federal government officials and corporate contractors at the Red Lion Hotel on March 20-23, for a conference that studies the growing Indian Country small business and tourism sector. The theme of “Building Economic Strength in Indian Communities” addresses the positive aspects of business growth that is occurring in Indian Country.

The Western American Indian Chamber and Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber of Commerce are hosts for this small business expo that expects to attract participants to the subjects of small Indian business development, government contracting, tribal business development and cultural/heritage tourism.

“The ultimate goal of this gathering is to assess how American Indian tribes and individuals can develop sustainable business enterprises in ways that improve tribal and community economic opportunity and support the growth of Indian business in the government and corporate contracting arenas. The conference will explore avenues for native people to work with federal and corporate partners who share common values regarding support for sustainable Indian communities” said, Ben Sherman, President of the Western American Indian Chamber.

The three-day conference will feature speakers as Karlene Hunter, Lakota, honored as the Native American Business Woman of the Year in 2003 by the National Indian Business Association. Hunter owns the first and only reservation-based direct marketing and telemarketing company in the United States. She has raised more than \$10 million in contributions for the Oglala Lakota College and serves on the board of the Native American Rights Fund.

The annual conference of the Native Tourism Alliance is included as part of the agenda of the Indian Business Expo. Indian tourism presentations and workshops will be offered. Dr. Susan Guyette will conduct workshops on tribal tourism development planning.

The conference is priced at \$200.00 and includes two receptions, general sessions, workshops, materials, lunches, breaks and dinner. Exhibit booths are priced at \$300.00 for corporate trade booths and \$150.00 for native art/craft booths. American Express, MasterCard and Visa credit cards are accepted

Special conference lodging rates are available at the Red Lion Hotel, the site of the conference. Call (303) 321–6666 for reservations and mention the Indian business conference.

Register online at www.indiancountry.org. Call (303) 661–9819 or (303) 620–9292 for information. Also e-mail Kim Cameron at kim@rmicc.org.

Creek man president of Native American Bank

Reprinted from *Native American Times* with permission.

OKLAHOMA CITY — A Native American man from Oklahoma has been appointed as president and chief executive officer of Native American Bank, a national organization.

J.D. Colbert, Chickasaw/Creek, comes to his new company from Bank2 in Oklahoma City, a lending institution that is 100% owned by the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma.

“I am very excited and honored to join Native American Bank as president and CEO. Native American Bank has immense potential to become the largest and most successful provider of financial services across Indian Country,” said Colbert. “I greatly look forward to working with our board and staff in further positioning Native American Bank to be the catalyst for the economic improvement in Indian Country.”

“We are very pleased to have Mr. Colbert join us as president and CEO,” said Tex Hall, chairman of the board of directors of the bank’s holding company and a former president of the National Congress of American Indians. “J.D. Colbert brings a strong record of success in the executive positions that he has held in banking and Indian Country. We believe that he is a great fit for our

organization and we look forward to exciting accomplishments under his leadership.”

Colbert is a well-known figure in Oklahoma Indian circles. Early last year he was selected for the Board of Directors of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce. In addition to his roles with the Greater OKC Chamber and the OKC chapter of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma, Colbert is on the State Board of Directors of the AICCO. He also serves on the board of Oklahoma City’s Empowerment Zone EDA Revolving Loan Fund and on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors for Oaks Indian Mission in Oaks, OK. Colbert is the founder of the North American Native Bankers Association, an association of banks owned by tribes and American Indian individuals.

Native American Bank is a \$63 million dollar bank with corporate headquarters in Denver, a retail branch in Browning, Montana and loan production offices in Box Elder, Montana and Anchorage, Alaska. Twenty-four federally recognized Indian tribes, Alaska Native corporations and tribal organizations own the bank. For more information about Native American Bank, visit the bank’s website at www.nabna.com.

Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Updates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise was recently awarded an additional contract in the amount of \$440,000 with the Kaw Nation Casino in Newkirk, Oklahoma. “MNBE Technology Services is installing new camera’s and DVR’s for the new casino expansion. They have also been awarded a \$80,000 contract for a card access system. We want to congratulate BJ Waggnor and his group for a job well done.”

MNBE has announced the promotion of tribal citizen and Henryetta resident BJ Waggnor as the new Division

Manager for Technology Services. “BJ has been with MNBE since August 2003 and was instrumental in helping in the development of this division,” said Michael Nalley, Director. “He is a natural fit to lead this group and very deserving of the promotion.”

They have started several new projects with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation. MNBE won a Fiber project that is starting soon and the value is \$700,000. The group also has several bridge rehabilitation projects that are subcontracted from a prime valued at \$160,000.

Smoke shop owners seek to influence state government

Reprinted from *Native American Times* with permission

ANADARKO — Thinking strength in numbers, an independent Comanche smoke shop owner from Anadarko has formed a group of like-minded individuals to battle the state’s efforts to clamp down on their businesses.

“There are too many people out there standing alone,” Charles Wells told the *Native American Times*. “We can have a bigger voice to tell the legislature that we are not going to lay down for this.”

Wells says he first began to become concerned when Oklahoma voters passed State Question 713. The legislation raised the tobacco tax-a move some considered a violation of previously signed state/tribal agreements.

Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chad Smith wrote that the legislation

is “in conflict” with the Cherokee’s compact with the state and “unacceptable.”

Although of a different tribe, Wells agrees.

“We are trying to do tribal business and it seems as though a compact doesn’t mean anything,” Wells said.

So the Coalition of Indian Smoke Shops was hatched, and Wells is the current chairman. He says that so far nine tribes have joined the coalition, and organizers are looking for more. Emergency Rules recently signed into law further convinced Wells of the need to “unite the tribes.” The rules were passed despite vigorous protests from tribal leaders and individual smoke shop owners.

Anyone interested in joining the coalition, or finding out more information, call 1-888-202-3474.

AICCO accepting applications

TULSA — Ad space is being sold and reserved for the 2006-07 AICCO Membership Directory. Reserve your ad space as soon as possible for this premiere publication, published in both print edition and on CD. This publication is requested nationwide, and this year’s

distribution will be 7,500 print directories, both inside and outside of Oklahoma, as well as over 10,000 in CD’s. To advertise, call the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma at (800) 652-4226, or e-mail chamber@aicco.org.

Request for Muscogee Business information

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department is accepting information on Muscogee owned and / or operated businesses and Muscogee business owners. If you, or someone you know, owns or operates a business and is a Muscogee Citizen write in and let us know about them and let us let everyone else know about them as well. It doesn’t matter if their business is a multinational corpo-

ration or doing bead work and selling it out of their house, all Muscogee owned or operated businesses are applicable.

Information on businesses will be ran as space permits and on a first come first served basis. Up to one picture can be ran with the information.

Please send information to: Muscogee Creek Nation Communications Department, ICO: Joshua Slane, P. O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447.

Communications Department develops TV Commercials

OKMULGEE — As many people have noticed, the Muscogee Nation Communications Department has been showing its own television show on Cox Channel 3 for the past month and a half.

What many people probably do not know is that the majority of the commercials seen during our television program are made by the Creek Nation Communications Department.

We go on site to shoot footage for the commercial, write the script and record voice overs, and take care of all the editing on the

commercial that needs to be done, as well as give it a spot during our television show for \$250.

That also includes allowing the customer to preview the commercial and make any changes that they desire.

We have made the commercial for the Native American Times as well as the commercial for the New Tradition Clinic.

If you would like to speak to someone about having a commercial made for you or your business contact Gerald Wofford at gwofford@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.



HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

MCN Division of Health Administration

OIHC wins award for awareness event

OKMULGEE — The Women’s Health Clinic at Okmulgee Indian Health Center (OIHC) recently won third place in a Breast Cancer Awareness Month Activities Contest sponsored by Positive Promotions, Inc. The nationwide contest recognizes the best and most creative activities and materials used to celebrate breast cancer awareness month. Photos of the Pink Party Activities held October 12, 2005 at the Mound Building as well as copies of the Dream Catcher Logo used for t-shirts and other materials won the third place award for the clinic. These materials illustrate how health education and promotional materials were tailored to suit the Muscogee (Creek) and other tribal populations served by OIHC. The growth of the Pink Party over the past three years illustrates how the OIHC Women’s Clinic has provided breast cancer awareness activities to a growing number of persons each year. Positive Promotions is company that provides banners, cups, ink pens, etc. to promote health and other activities. As third place winner, OIHC will receive \$100 in merchandise and the OIHC breast cancer awareness activities will be highlighted on the Positive Promotions website in the fall. For information about breast cancer or women’s health, contact the OIHC Women’s Clinic at (918)758-2717.

CHR Program provides healthy presentations

OKMULGEE — As many already know, the CHR (Community Health Representative) Program provide quality presentations and health fairs to various communities within the Creek Boundaries. Recently the Creek Nation CHR Program provided a CDC (Center for Disease Control) presentation on antibiotics at the Elderly Nutrition Center in Holdenville in English and the Muscogee language on February 20. Manager Cydi Gilks and CHR’s attending were Senora Lumpkin, Scott Harjo, Ace Bukner, Delois Roulston, Edward Scott. Guests from CDC were Darcia Johnson and Pat Cook, other guests included Dione Harjo, Commander, CHR, EMS, Health Education Coordinator from Oklahoma City IHS Department. For more information regarding presentations, healthfairs or other CHR services provided, contact the Community Health Representative Program at (918)756-1941.

Poison Awareness in Headstart centers

OKMULGEE — March is Poison Awareness Month and the CHR program will be providing presentations in the Creek Nation Headstart centers, beginning with Tulsa Creek Nation Headstart center, Sapulpa Creek Nation Headstart Center on March 20, and Yardeka Headstart center March 21; Wilson Headstart center March 21; Holdenville Early Child Development March 22 at 9:30am and Yeager Headstart at 10:00 am as well as Moss Pre-K. March 23 Checotah Headstart and Eufaula Headstart at 9:30am.

CHR’s will be doing health fairs and presentations in upcoming months at schools and community centers. Contact the CHR office for more information at (918)756-1941.

Tobacco Prevention post signs for policy

OKMULGEE — Have you seen the signs? The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program has placed signs at all Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers. The signs read “No commercial tobacco abuse on health facilities property”. The signs were placed at the health centers to confirm the no smoking policy. The policy also includes all forms of commercial tobacco and all health centers are commercial tobacco free.

Commercial tobacco abuse includes cigarettes whether hand rolled or rolled commercially, chew tobacco, cigars, snuff, and pipe tobacco.

Smoking or the use of any commercial tobacco product is prohibited in or on all buildings, grounds, parking lots, ramps, vehicles, and sidewalks adjacent to the properties owned, leased, or operated by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation community centers hosting the Elderly Nutrition Program may apply this policy at their facility if they so choose to do so.

“The health and well being of our tribal members and our tribal employees are the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program’s number one goal,” said Marcus Proctor, Program Specialist. The policy is a higher standard of health care. It is a safety standard for all the citizens. One third of all fines are started by cigarettes. The MCN Health System wants to do its part.

“I was happy to see the signs placed because they let everyone know about the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System’s Commercial Tobacco Free Policy which went into effect July 1, 2005,” says Debra Isham, Director of the Okmulgee Health Center. “Before the policy was established, some people used to smoke outside the main doors to the clinic which meant that patients, including children or elders with all types of health problems sometimes had to walk through a cloud of smoke to enter the

clinic,” she added.

The policy prohibits smoking or the use of commercial tobacco anywhere on tribal health clinic and program premises, in or around buildings, grounds, parking lots, ramps, vehicles and sidewalks adjacent to the properties of the health system and applies to employees, patients, providers, volunteers, visitors, vendors and the public.

“Many hospitals and organizations have also adopted this same type of policy.

There are posters and signs on all clinic doors, but some people don’t realize that the policy also covers the outside of the property as well. When informed about the policy, most are agreeable and say they didn’t know smoking was prohibited on the clinic grounds and parking lots,” said Isham.

For more information about the no smoking policy signs, contact the Tobacco Prevention Program at (918)756-6231.



Melody Hampton and Bert Robison display new sign at the Eufaula Health Center



Debra Isham displays new “no commerical” sign at the Okmulgee Health Center

Project Venture presents model methods for summer youth camp wellness program

by Carla Brown

OKMULGEE — On February 22 the Behavioral Health Program hosted a Youth Summer Camp Wellness Program Planning Committee meeting. McClellan Hall, Executive Director of the National Indian Youth Leadership Project (NIYLP) in Gallup, New Mexico, gave a presentation about *Project Venture*, an exemplary program for youth based on positive activity.

Project Venture, part of the NIYLP, was recognized as the most effective program serving Native American youth in a recent national cross-site evaluation of prevention program funded by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. This program

is the first Native prevention program to reach the highest level of recognition on CSAP’s on-line registry of model programs at www.samhsa.gov.

“This program utilizes a positive approach to increasing strengths of Indian youth, rather than the deficit model” explains Hall.

Project Venture has a “no junk food or carbonated beverage and nutrition policy. Hall and staff work mainly with middle school youth using a peer culture model and building on the clan concept of socialization. Project Venture stresses on teaching the importance of being positive and having respect for each other and for all aspects of nature.

60 replication camps have developed

the Project Venture methods within 17 States.

“The Summer Youth Camp and Wellness Program is seen by the Behavioral Health staff as a great opportunity to address substance abuse issues and behavioral problems with adolescents in a more proactive manner. Our goal is to develop a prevention program that entails interacting with these youth over a year period of time. This would include involvement in a summer camp and after school activities. We also hope to secure grants to carry this program on beyond the initial years funding.” says Mr. Daley Tearl, the Acting Director for the Behavioral Health Program.

DOCTOR’S NOTE by Lawrence Vark DO, CMO

The lungs are part of the respiratory system. Their function is to supply oxygen to the blood while removing carbon dioxide. Lung cancer may spread to the lymph nodes or other tissues in the chest (including the other lung). In many cases, lung cancer may also spread to other organs of the body, such as the bones, brain, or liver. Significance of lung cancer: Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in U.S. men and women.

Lung cancer prevention; Lung cancer can often be associated with known risk factors for the disease. Many risk factors are modifiable though not all can be avoided.

Tobacco: Studies show that smoking tobacco products in any form is the major cause of lung cancer. People who stop smoking and never start again lower their risk of developing lung cancer or of having lung cancer recur (come back). Many products, such as nicotine gum, nicotine sprays, nicotine inhalers, nicotine patches, or nicotine lozenges, may be helpful to people trying to quit smoking, as well as

antidepressant drugs. In addition, a number of efforts at the community, state, and national level have helped to reduce smoking rates.

Secondhand tobacco smoke also causes lung cancer. This is smoke that comes from a burning cigarette or other tobacco product, or smoke that is exhaled by smokers. People who inhale second hand smoke are exposed to the same cancer-causing agents as smokers, although in weaker amounts. Inhaling secondhand smoke is called involuntary or passive smoking.

Environmental Causes: There are other causes of lung cancer in the environment, but their effect on lung cancer rates is small compared to the effect of cigarette smoking.

Cancer-causing agents that may be found indoors, especially in the workplace, include asbestos, radon, arsenic, chromium, nickel, tar and soot. These substances can cause lung cancer in never-smokers, and combine with cigarette smoke to further increase lung cancer risk in smokers. Many

countries are working to control these cancer-causing agents in the workplace.

Air pollution may also increase the risk of lung cancer. Studies show that lung cancer rates are higher in cities with higher levels of air pollution.

Beta Carotene: Studies show that heavy smokers who avoid taking beta carotene supplements may avoid further increasing their risk of lung cancer compared with smokers who do take beta carotene.

Diet and Physical Activity: Studies show that a diet rich in fruit, and possibly vegetables, may help lower the risk of lung cancer, while heavy alcohol drinking may increase the risk of lung cancer. In addition, studies show that people who are physically active may have a lower risk of lung cancer than those who are not, even after taking cigarette smoking into account.

Chemoprevention: Chemoprevention is the use of specific natural or man-made drugs to reverse, suppress, or prevent cancer growth. Chemoprevention is an area of active clinical research. It has not yet become standard therapy.

NOTICE FROM HOUSING

The Admissions Department of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is requesting that the applicants on the following list contact the Admissions Department and update their application in order to continue consideration for future housing opportunities. Failure to contact Housing will result in no further processing of application and may require you to reapply to the program. You may contact the Admissions Department at 918-759-4531 or 1-800-259-5050.

Anderson, Nicole D. 2301 W. Tecumseh Tulsa, OK 74127	Haynes, Dennis G. 715 Muttloke Dr.; Apt. B Bristow, OK 74010	Robison, Michelle 226 S. Hinckley Holdenville, OK 74848
Barnes, Lloyd P. 1565 S. 67 th East Ave. Tulsa, OK 74112	Hicks, Sherry L. 107-B Fus Cate Okemah, OK 74859	Rojas, Kayla S. 1618 N. Aberdeen Muskogee, OK 74403
Bigpond, Cody C. P. O. Box 402 Depew, OK 74028	Holsey, Kimberly 4774 Herrick Rd. Beggs, OK 74421	Snow, Beverly R. P. O. Box 96 Henryetta, OK 74437
Castro, Shannon R. Route 1, Box 206 Asher, OK 74826	Horse Jr., Dewey E. 603 N. Ohio Ave.; Apt. B Okmulgee, OK 74447	Sperry, James A. 1110 N. Griffin Okmulgee, OK 74447
Checotah, LaShonna D. P. O. Box 715 Beggs, OK 74421	Horton, Brian R. HC-64, Box 906 Eufaula, OK 74432	Spiegel, Shannon M. 620 E. Jefferson St. Muskogee, OK 74403
Clark, Chastity C. 301 N. Miami; Apt. 9 Okmulgee, OK 74447	Hummingbird, Joseph D. P. O. Box 485 Okemah, OK 74859	Stevens, Jonathan R. 820 Louisiana St. Muskogee, OK 74403
Cole, Jerry R. 4401 S. Columbus Muskogee, OK 74401	Jay, Cara M. 1428 E. Elberta Ct. Porter, OK 74454	Taylor, Krystal A. Route 4, Box 108 Checotah, OK 74426
Cromwell, Adrian J. 812 West South Ave. Checotah, OK 74426	Johnson, Ashley L. 7709 West 7 th St. Tulsa, OK 74127	Thompson, Barbara A. P. O. Box 73 Castle, OK 74833
Crosby, Shonna E. 11124 East 28 th Pl. Tulsa, OK 74129	Lewis, Cynthia L. 1611 S. Utica Ave.; #134 Tulsa, OK 74104	Tiger, Lena M. 1312 E. Dewey Sapulpa, OK 74066
Dale, Codi J. P. O. Box 356 Sapulpa, OK 74067	Lindsey, Thomas E. 7221 West 16 th St. Tulsa, OK 74127	Tyndall, Shawn M. 419 S. Grand Ave.; #A Okmulgee, OK 74447
Davis, Doris E. 4512 N. Johnstown Tulsa, OK 74105	Lowe, Kimberly A. 952 S. 61 st 15C Tulsa, OK 74136	Tyon, Jennifer L. 532 S. Zunis Tulsa, OK 74104
Durrett, Jimmy D. Route 3, Box 7180 Eufaula, OK 74432	McGee, Elizabeth E. 118 Opvlikv Drive Eufaula, OK 74432	Vance, Teresa A. 201 N. 10 th Okemah, OK 74859
Estep, Lisa 604-A McIntosh Drive Eufaula, OK 74432	McGirt, David M. 500 N Alabama St. Wetumka, OK 74883	Wadley, Caysie G. 11700 N. 240 Rd. Okmulgee, OK 74447
Fish, Jennifer L. 610 E. Tiger Wetumka, OK 74883	McNac, Peter 1308 N. Collins Okmulgee, OK 74447	Walker Jr., Barney 14025-B S. 287 th E. Ave. Coweta, OK 74429
Foster, Georgia J. Route 2, Box 1774 Talihina, OK 74571	Moore, Phillip C. 400 Crutchmer Pl.; Apt B-14 Okmulgee, OK 74447	Watashe, Donnell M. 12964 S. 241 West Ave. Sapulpa, OK 74066
Franklin, Melanie G. Rout 1, Box 40-B Okemah, OK 74859	Murch, Jessica E. 519 Baltimore Muskogee, OK 74403	Williams, Autumn M. 12449 W. 186 th St. South Sapulpa, OK 74066
Gay, Euala M. 7224 S. 90 th E. Ave.; Spt#1013 Tulsa, OK 74133	Noon, Eric R. 1659 S. 130 th East Ave. Tulsa, OK 74108	Williams, Suzy L. 102 Lou Dr. Holdenville, OK 74848
Goodvoice, Lauren R. 14900 S. Birch; Apt. 401 Glenpool, OK 74033	Payne, Kristine 111-B Este Cate Okemah, OK 74859	Wilson, Bobbie J. HC-63, Box 71-B Eufaula, OK 74432
Gourd, Nora K. P. O. Box 654 Glenpool, OK 74033	Perryman, Anna M. P. O. Box 523 Holdenville, OK 74848	Wright, Lee A. 1713 Quail Run Muskogee, OK 74403
Grider, Adreanne N. 2430 S. Jackson Ave.; #9-C Tulsa, OK 74107	Peyketewa, Gina 2326 N. Atlanta Pl. Tulsa, OK 74110	Wright, Roymecka L. 8618 East 66 th Pl.; #D Tulsa, OK 74133
Harvey, Millie 14170 S. Poplar Pl. Glenpool, OK 74033	Pierce, Melvin J. 625 W. 149 th St. Glenpool, OK 74033	Yargee, Jennifer A. 700 East 7 th Holdenville, OK 74848

LISTED ARE LAST KNOWN ADDRESSES OF APPLICANTS

COMMUNITY SHIELD
PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division/Authority is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes. The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses. To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence. The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property. The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact
Lenora McPerryman
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117



Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan. The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.

For More Information Contact:
MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
P.O. Box 297
Okmulgee, Ok 74447
1-800-259-5050
918-759-4137

The Mortgage Assistance Program is a program of the
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING

- To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).
- Be a first time home buyer.
 - Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.
 - Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.
 - Be 18 years or older.
 - Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.
 - Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.
 - Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.
 - Preference given to Creek Citizens.
- Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Division of Health

Clinician - Behavioral Health Services

A Masters Degree in Counseling Psychology or related field. One (1) year relevant experience in counseling. LPC, LMFT or LCSW licensure/certifications valid in the State of Oklahoma is preferred. Incumbents who do not possess valid licensers/certifications as specified must be actively working toward obtaining this licensure/certification.

Property & Supply Clerk

High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. One (1) year of related experience.

Clinical Director - Behavioral Health Services

A Ph.D. or Psy.D. in Clinical or Counseling Psychology from an accredited college/university. Five (5) years experience as a licensed psychologist. Five (5) years of managerial or supervisory experience. Current Licensure by the State of Oklahoma as a Psychologist or Health Services Psychologist is required.

Staff Dentist - Sapulpa

A DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certificate from an accredited General Practice Residency program. Or, a DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia. One (1) year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three (3) additional years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements.

Coding Specialist

High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. A bachelors or Associates Degree in Health Administration or Technology is preferred. Three (3) to five (5) years relevant experience dependent upon the education qualifications stated above. Certification as a CPC or CCS-P is required. Certification from an accredited coding certification program is required. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Dental Assistant - Sapulpa

High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of training from an accredited school as a Dental Assistant and/or Certificates of Training received from the Oklahoma State Board of Dentistry or IHS is preferred but not required. One (1) year of relevant experience as a dental assistant.

Medical Lab Technician - Eufaula

A High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Successful completion of 90 semester hours of academic credit necessary to satisfy requirements of the position as well as a structured curriculum in Medical Laboratory Techniques at an accredited institution is required. Four (4) years of pertinent full-time Laboratory experience. Valid ASCP certification as a MT is required.

Physician Assistant - (2 Positions)

Successful completion of an accredited course of study specifically designed for training professional Mid-Level Providers. One (1) year of relevant experience preferred. Course of study or program completed by the incumbent must be approved by a nationally recognized professional medical body such as the AMA, AAMC or other body established for this purpose.

Registered Nurse - CNCH

Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited professional school of nursing. One (1) of relevant experience required. Incumbent must possess a current State of Oklahoma Nursing license.

Billing Technician (Accounts Receivable)

Associate Degree in accounting or a related business field is preferred. One (1) year of relevant experience is required with an Associates Degree. Four (4) years of relevant experience may be substituted for the educational requirements stated above.

Lead Cook Supervisor - ENP

High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Two (2) years relevant experience in food services or related field. Incumbent must possess a valid food handler's permit, valid Oklahoma State Drivers License and be insurable.

Dental Hygienist - Coweta

Completion of a Dental Hygienist curriculum from an accredited institution. One (1) year of relevant experience as a dental hygienist. Certificates of training received from the Oklahoma State Board of Dentistry or Indian Health service (IHS).

Physician Assistant - Okemah (2 Positions)

Successful completion of an accredited course of study specifically designed for training professional Mid-Level Providers. One (1) year of relevant experience preferred. Course of study or program completed by the incumbent must be approved by a nationally recognized professional medical body such as the AMA, AAMC or other body established for this purpose.

Compliance Officer

GS-8, \$14.83 per hour: Associate Degree in Business or Health Administration or related field is and completion of formal coding training (CPC or CCS-P is preferred) and three (3) years of progressively responsible experience in medical/hospital billing.

GS-10, \$17.89: Bachelors degree in Business or Health Administration or related field and two (2) years of relevant experience.

GS-12, \$21.06: M.B.A., M.P.H. or C.P.A. and one (1) year of relevant work experience. Compliance experience is strongly preferred for any of the above levels. Valid Oklahoma Driver's License is required.

Medical Lab Technician - Eufaula

Successful completion of 90 semester hours of academic credit from an accredited institution to satisfy requirements of the position and completion of a structured curriculum in Medical Laboratory Techniques received from a school of Medical Technology recognized by an accredited board of registry. Two (2) years of pertinent full-time Laboratory experience as a Technician Trainee in a Laboratory performing highly complex testing may be substituted for the educational requirements. Valid ASCP certification as an MLT or an MT is required.

Physician - Sapulpa

Candidates must be a graduate of an accredited college/university of medicine receiving a M.D. or D.O. and must possess a current State of Oklahoma license to practice medicine, a DEA license. Medicare provider agreement, and ACLS certification. One (1) year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three (3) years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements. Incumbent must possess current State of Oklahoma License to practice medicine and /or be able to obtain this license prior to employment with the Health System

Physician

Candidates must be a graduate of an accredited college/university of medicine receiving a M.D. or D.O. and must possess a current State of Oklahoma license to practice medicine, a DEA license. Medicare provider agreement, and ACLS certification. One (1) year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three (3) years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements. Incumbent must possess current State of Oklahoma License to practice medicine and /or be able to obtain this license prior to employment with the Health System.

Nurse Practitioner - (Float Status)

Successful completion of an accredited course of study specifically designed for training professional Mid-Level Providers. Three (3) years of relevant experience. Course of study or program completed by the incumbent must be approved by a nationally recognized professional medical body such as the AMA, AAMC or other body established for this purpose.

Medical Lab Technician - Okemah

High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Successful completion of 60 semester hours of academic credit necessary to satisfy requirements of the position as well as a structured curriculum in Medical Laboratory Techniques at an accredited institution is preferred. Two (2) years of relevant full-time Laboratory experience performing highly complex testing as a Technician Trainee may be substituted for the educational requirements. Certification as a MLT through the ASCP is preferred.

Chief Operating Officer (C.O.O.)

Bachelor's Degree in Business or related field is required. A Masters Degree in same area of study is preferred. Two (2) years relevant experience gained through working in a tribal setting.

Optometry Technician - Okemah

High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. One (1) year related experience in an Optometry Clinic is preferred.

For more information, visit the website at: www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/healthadministration/Jobs.htm or call (918)756-4333 or (800)782-8291.

Clovis as new 4-H Coordinator

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Creek Nation has hired Rick Clovis as the new 4-H Coordinator. Clovis has a B.S. degree in Animal Science from Oklahoma State University. He and his family near Oktaha in Muscogee County.

Creek Nation 4-H was established to assist Creek Youth in participating in the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development Program.

The goal of 4-H is to provide a wide range of educational opportunities to youth. "Most people think 4-H is just about livestock showing, however we also have other programs which include: junior livestock shows, speech and demonstration projects, fabrics and fashion, wildlife, shooting sports, science and technology as well as other projects, such as the dog club," said Rick Clovis.

The common goal of these activities is to provide a challenging and interesting learning opportunity, but at the same time provide personal development. Communication skills, self confidence, leadership training, and citizenship experiences are prime examples of skills developed in 4-H.

Once the youth become involved in their local club and choose a project they



Rick Clovis

find personally interesting, they start long term involvement in 4-H which provides maximum benefits of the program. "This program provides youth with an area of self confidence and will help them to be successful in adult life," says Clovis.

Fun activities are also an important part of 4-H. These activities help to attract youth to the 4-H program and allow them to develop friendships and experience enjoyable social experiences.

Some fun 4-H activities are Share the Fun, county summer camps, overnight camps in science and technology, showing livestock, OSU basketball games, professional hockey games, District Fall Leadership Conference at Fin and Feather Resort, State Roundup in Stillwater, and out of state trips to Washington, D.C. Denver, Kansas City and Atlanta.

Exposure to educational and career opportunities is also a key benefit of involvement in 4-H. Additional programs and opportunities for Creek youth are being developed, with announcements to come in the following months.

Clovis' office is located in Okmulgee at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal complex and he may be reached at (918)-759-4142.

Intertribal Monitoring Association meeting

LAWTON — The Intertribal Monitoring Association will be holding a "Listening Conference" on Tribal & Individual Trust Funds and Assets Issues hosted by Comanche Nation.

The conference will be held March 21–22, beginning at 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. It will be held at the Comanche Nation Complex, eight miles north of Lawton. OST and BIA staff will participate in the meeting and be on-site to meet privately with individuals regarding their IIM accounts.

Register with Fred Nahwooksy at (405) 216–3004 or (580) 492–3745. No registration fee required to attend.

For more information visit www.itmatrustfunds.org.

Upcoming Gouge Reunion

HENRYETTA — The Gouge family is planning a reunion in October. The Gouge family is asking all family members to please notify them. The next scheduled meeting and pot luck dinner will be on Mar. 19 at 2 p.m. The dinner will be held at the Tiger Mountain Ranch, seven miles east of Henryetta on I-40. For more information call Nancy (Gouge) Deere at (918) 756–4272.

Head Start accepting applications

CHECOTAH — Checotah head start is currently accepting applications for enrollment. You will need the following items turned in with your application: birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income, and if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card. Your child will also need a dental record and physical completed. All ethnic races may apply.

Creek Nation Head Start offers full

day services for children 3-5 years of age. Children must be 3 by September 1st. Other services provided include: meals, health and social services, speech testing, individualized teaching services for children with special needs and parent involvement. Transportation services may be made available to you.

You may visit the head start at 302 B. Street in Checotah to get an application. For more information, you may call (918) 473-0605.

State of Indian Nations Address

WASHINGTON — On Jan 25, Joe Garcia, President of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) the nation's oldest, largest, and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization - delivered the fourth annual State of Indian Nations Address on Feb. 2, at the National Press Club-Holeman Lounge in Washington, D.C. The address took stock of the state of American Indian and Alaska Native nations in the United States. The speech was delivered two days after President Bush's State of the Union Address and related to the President and the general public a comprehensive, contemporary, and visionary picture of the challenges and opportunities before today's American Indian and Alaska Native nations. Those attended were tribal leaders from across the nation, administrations officials and national Indian organizations including: The National American Indian Housing Council, Native American Rights Fund, National Indian Education Association, National Indian Gaming Association, and the Friends Committee at National Legislation. For more information about how to obtain live coverage, call Adam McMullin at (202) 721-1386.

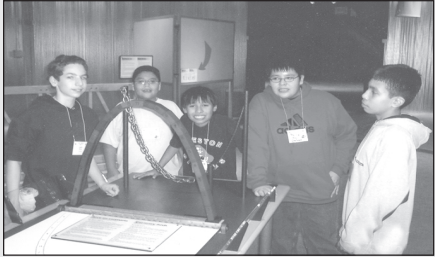
Creek Nation 4-H Omnibox Trip

OKMULGEE — Eight Creek Nation 4-H members attended the 4-H Omnibox camp on Feb.3. The Omnibox is a hands-on, science and technology, based museum. The museum contains interactive displays demonstrating basic principles of physics, aerospace engineering, and scientific principals. Actual space capsules, rocket engines, historical trains, and aircraft from every era of air travel are on display. A special CSI (crime scene investigation) type activity was the focus for the overnight pro-



gram. The campers had to solve the theft of a snake using modern scientific methods. Fingerprint analysis, DNA, microscopic fiber analysis, and footprint comparisons, were some of the tools used to solve the crime.

Creek youth crime investigators were Alexander and Darren Fields, Robin and Dylan Hicks, Nick Tiger, Logan Weeks, Phillip Frye and Makayla Blackbear. For more information on Creek Nation 4-H and upcoming programs, contact Creek Nation 4-H Coordinator, Rick Clovis at (918)-759-4142.



Okmulgee County High School Students Awarded Concurrent Fee and Book Scholarship

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Education Task Force celebrated the success of the Fee and Book Scholarship program for high school concurrent students by treating them to a pizza party.

Over \$9,000.00 was provided to Okmulgee County high school students concurrently enrolled at OSU-Okmulgee to help pay for their books and fees associated with taking the college level classes for the fall and spring classes. Muscogee Creek Nation, Henryetta First National Bank, American Exchange Bank, Henryetta Ford and East Central Electric joined forces and participated in the unique community scholarship program.

A recent change in concurrent enrollment rules by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education allowed OSU-Okmulgee to offer tuition waivers to qualified high school students concurrently enrolled. As a result, OSU-Okmulgee teamed up with the Okmulgee County Workforce Education Task Force and Muscogee (Creek) Nation to underwrite scholarships to cover the cost of tuition, books and fees for the concurrent students.

Tuition waivers were extended to all high school concurrent students by OSU-Okmulgee. Applications were available for all concurrent students to apply for the fee and book scholarship.

According to Danna Minnick, Manager of Employment & Training, the tribe provided fee and book scholarships to any Native American high school student who qualified with a national recognized tribal identification and completed the scholarship application and process. All other students completing the fee and book scholarship application competed for the private dollars that were raised.



Concurrent enrollment gives high school students an opportunity to earn high school and college credits at the same time and complete a number of college courses by the time they earn their high school diploma. The tuition waiver combined with the fee and book scholarship afforded many more local students to take advantage of this opportunity. Many local families are hard pressed to provide the funding for concurrent enrolment. With the tuition waived by OSU-Okmulgee, fees and books for one class can still cost upwards of \$180.00.

The mission of the Okmulgee County Education Task Force is to advance the quality of life and increase the educational competency level by increasing the number of high school students concurrently enrolled at OSU-Okmulgee. It is documented that high school students who also take classes at college are much more likely to earn a college degree than students who do not take advanced courses while in high school. This statistic related directly to higher wage level opportunities for those completing higher education degrees.

The Education Task Force does not plan to stop here. Committee members are already working toward raising funds to provide all concurrent enrolled students a fee and book scholarship for 2006-2007 school year. Jeff Speligene of Henryetta Ford said it best when he contributed to the scholarship program, “This is an opportunity for business to be good corporate citizens and increase the quality of life in the community. When business leaders sponsor scholarships, they give students the opportunity to be concurrently enrolled at OSU-Okmulgee and be better prepared to enter college after high school graduation.” The same can be said of individuals that believe in the growth and well being of Okmulgee County.

For more information about the Okmulgee Fee and Book Scholarship program, contact the Okmulgee Workforce Center at (918) 756-5791.

College of the Muscogee Nation Significant Achievements *By Dr. James King*

OKMULGEE — In October, 2003 the Principal Chief met with the President of Oklahoma State University to discuss the viability of a Muscogee Nation Tribal College. Both concurred that the Nation and the university could collaborate and develop a model tribal institution of higher education. Their agreement has resulted in several milestones of development for the College of the Muscogee Nation. Although many tasks have been completed, the Regents and the College Administration continue working to establish an institution of excellence. Following is a list of achievements:

A Higher Education Needs Assessment was completed December, 2003.

In June, 2004 Principal Chief A.D. Ellis convened the Tribal College Work Study Group; the group completed the Baseline Analysis for the Tribal College Work Statements Report.

The National Council expressed their commitment to the Tribal College by appropriating in 2004 funding for the Board of Regents, Technical Assistance, and Start up costs.

Offices of the Tribal College were opened at OSU- Okmulgee, June, 2004.

The first full time employee of the Tribal College was hired October, 2004.

The first Tribal College classes were offered during the fall semester 2004; 2 classes were offered, Beginning Muscogee Creek Language and Native American History with a total enrollment of 27 students.

All 19 Tribal College classes offered during fall 2004, spring 2005, summer 2005 and fall 2005 were taught by Muscogee Creek instructors. Instructors were evaluated by students in each class.

Orientation was provided to Tribal College adjunct faculty in December 2004.

In the Fall semester of 2004 the Tribal College and OSU- Oklahoma City collaborated on an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Police Science for Muscogee Creek Lighthorse officers (law enforcement).

In January, 2005 the first Tribal College classes to be taught in tribal facilities were for the Lighthorse (law enforcement officers). Muscogee Creek instructors for the classes, both have Masters Degrees in counseling and extensive teaching experience.

The first regular scheduled Tribal College Board of Regents meeting was held February, 2005. Ramona Mason was elected Chair; Dr. Blue Clark, Vice- Chair; Sharon Mouss, Secretary, other members are Robert Bible and Pandee Ramirez. They named an interim President.

At the March, 2005 Regents meeting, the name College of the Muscogee

Nation was submitted by the Regents to the Muscogee Nation Executive Branch which was then approved through legislation of the National Council.

In March, 2005 the Regents Chair and one member attended the Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference in Chicago, Ill. to obtain information about the process of accreditation.

In May, 2005 legal counsel was retained for the tribal college.

In May, 2005 the staff for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education provided training to the Tribal College Regents. Dr. Debra Stuart coordinated the training.

In June, 2005 the Regents Chair and one member attended a meeting of all tribal post secondary institutions at the State Regents office in Oklahoma City.

A tribal college forum was held July, 2005 featuring Dr. Raymond Fogelson as the principal speaker. The main topic was Southeastern American Indians.

The College of the Muscogee Nation becomes a line item in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Annual Comprehensive Budget. Funding for the first full year was 2005-2006.

The total enrollment for tribal college courses was Fall 2004- 27; Spring 2005- 85; Summer 2005-16; Fall 2005- 55 for a grand total of 183.

Courses that have been offered include Muscogee Creek Language: Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced; Federal Indian Law; Native American History, Tribal Court Systems; American Indian Leadership; Crisis Intervention; and Personal Trainer Certification.

Dr. Myra Starr- Alexander was employed as the President in mid-August, 2005.

A student registration system was purchased and installed in August, 2005. The Chair of the Regents and tribal college staff are being oriented and trained for operational processes.

In September, 2005 the College of the Muscogee Nation Regents Chair and President attended the statewide meeting at UCO in Edmond to discuss curriculum articulation with other state institutions of higher education.

In September, 2005 the Regents Secretary completed the State Regents Board Training.

The Regents unanimously supported offering an Associate Degree in Gaming at the October, 2005 meeting. A letter of intent by the Chair of the Regents has been submitted to the Regents for Higher Education. Other associate degrees being considered include Human Services, Muscogee Language, Muscogee Studies and Tribal Administration.

Free College Courses Available for Mvskoke Citizens

WETUMKA — Haskell Indian Nations University is entering into its second year of online classes offered to Muscogee Nation tribal members. Our online program has proven to benefit many Natives in rural America. Through a cooperative agreement with Wes Watkins Technology Center located in Wetumka, we have begun a pilot program to offer several college accredited courses to enrolled tribal members. It is now time for fall 2006 pre-enrollment and there are plenty of spaces available. The Muscogee Nation National Council approved complete funding of Haskell online courses and textbooks. These classes will be attended at the Wes Watkins site. We have tentatively scheduled the following courses for the spring semester:

HINU Distance Education Fall 2006

CourseID	SEC	Credit	Title	Days	Time
AIS334		3	Amer. Indian Lit. in Translation	MW	11:10 12:25
BUS232		3	Business Techincal Writing		Correspondence only
MTH100	5	3	Intermediate Algebra	M/W/F	1:10 2:00
MTH101		3	College Algebra	T/TH	1:00 2:15
		5	Muscogee Language I	MW	4:30 6:50

More courses will be available soon; the **deadline for fall applicatons is April 30th**. The applications can be obtained by calling the admissions office and requesting a packet by mail or by downloading online at the university website. We will announce new classes through the MCN newspaper next month. For more information contact Nathan Anderson: (785) 832-6679; e-mail: n-anderson@haskell.edu Haskell Admissions: (785) 749-8454 or Haskell Website: www.haskell.edu

New Program for Holdenville Public School

HOLDENVILLE — La-ne Lvmhe is a new program for Holdenville Public Schools that is designed to help improve grades of the JOM students in grades 4-12. At the end of each nine weeks, the students that obtain an A average receive a \$25 gift card and students



Holdenville High school



Holdenville Elementary school

that obtain a B average receive a \$10 gift card to Wal-Mart. La-ne Lvmhe is a pilot program and is sponsored by the Holdenville Indian Community Center.



Barnett spotlights on upcoming Senior trips



Creek Filmmaker enjoys media success



March Madness stronger than ever in third year



National Indian Monument Museum News

•NIMI Has a New DVD

Architect Robert Johnson and Skyline Ink have just finished an animated “fly-over” of the American Indian Cultural Center. This DVD lets you see the Center as if in a helicopter. Fly down the Arkansas River and over the Cultural Center on a beautiful, sunny day! You can request this DVD along with information about the center by contacting Agnes Perryman, Director of Development at agnes@indianmonument.org or (918) 838-3875.

•Tulsa Indian Cultural Preservation Project

The National Indian Monument & Institute, Inc. is developing a comprehensive multi-media directory of all American Indian artists in Oklahoma. This includes artists, storytellers, chefs, musicians, entertainers, scholars, athletes, historians, or native language speakers. The development of the directory will also help create working collaborations between the Oklahoma Indian tribes,

American Indian artists, performers, living historical figures, American Indian education organizations, and the American Indian Cultural Center.

The directory will be used for booking American Indians for teaching classes or workshops, performing, demonstrating, and honoring. If you would like to be included in this directory, please fill out the form to the right. For more information or question, send an e-mail at agnes@nimi.us.

•Native American Veterans Memorial Wall

NIMI is currently organizing awareness and support for a Native American Veterans Memorial Wall. This monument will be on the grounds of the new NIMI facility. We are asking Veterans organizations and veterans to discuss the details for the monument. Their opinion is greatly needed and respected. We are asking Veterans to please contact NIMI or the Program Coordinator, Chris Hill at chris@nimi.us.

Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair

NORMAN — The 4th Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair is being held at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at the University of Oklahoma on March 23 and 24. This year’s theme is “Speak in Beauty.”

The Language Fair has various divisions of competition. There will be a poster art on a language theme, spoken language presentation, language presentation with song/dance, language film, video and multi-media, book/literature and language advocacy essay contests.

Last year, over 800 students and 16 different tribes across the United States attended. Some of the tribes that attended were: Kiowa, Choctaw, Cheyenne, Comanche, Muscogee (Creek), Cherokee, Osage, Zuni, Caddo, Pawnee, Otoe and Ponca.

The Youth Language Fair gives the students a goal to work towards and is a great opportunity for students to show off their developing language skills in a fun and supportive environment.

“The fair provides a wonderful atmosphere of sharing and support for both the students and the teachers who participate,” said language fair coordinator Mary Linn, curator of Native American Languages at the museum. “From the beginning the fair has been about encouraging the study of Native languages and making it fun. The growth we have seen in our numbers over just four years seems to say that we have succeeded in that. The students have a great time and meet others from across the region who are also interested in studying Native languages.”

Native artists, authors, elders and language teachers from several different tribes will judge the various categories. Strict accuracy in the language is not essential. Rather, the performances will be evaluated on how much the Native language is used, the spirit of the performance itself, and effort.

For more information, contact the Native American Languages department at (405) 325-7588 or e-mail Warren Queton at aye_china@ou.edu.

Native American History Series: Civil War Battles in Indian Territory *by Patrick E. Moore*

Civil War military action began in the eastern United States during the month of April 1861, however there was not a battle in Indian Territory until November of that year.

Opothleyahola, Creek leader and Union sympathizer, had gathered approximately 7,000 Creeks and Seminoles on the banks of the Deep Fork River. Concerned about Opothleyahola’s Union sympathies 1,400 Indian Territory Confederate troops, consisting of Choctaw, Seminole and Chickasaw soldiers plus one company of Texas Cavalry under the command of Colonel Chilly McIntosh moved into the area occupied by Opothleyahola and his followers early in November 1861.



Opothleyahola had remained true to the treaty between the United States of America and The Creek Nation. He had written new President Abraham Lincoln requesting the assistance of federal troops and questioning why the President had ordered the United States Army to abandon the Creeks in Indian Territory after promising by treaty to protect them from outsiders for ever. President Lincoln did not reply and Confederate soldiers were advancing onto Creek lands from the east and south.

Opothleyahola’s scouts reported this Confederate movement and the old leader was able to lead his followers out of danger to the vicinity of Round Mountain. Confederate scouts soon discovered Opothleyahola’s new camp and on November 19, 1861 the first battle of the Civil War in Indian Territory was engaged. The Battle of Round Mountain resulted in defeat for the Confederate forces and Opothleyahola moved his camp to Bird Creek a location much easier to defend due to the topography.

The Confederate forces regrouped

and were joined by Colonel John Drew in command of a Cherokee Regiment and on December 9, 1861 they attacked again only to be repulsed during the heat of battle when the Cherokee Regiment deserted and thus the second Civil War battle in Indian Territory resulted in a another loss by the Confederate Forces.

Confederate troops reorganized at Fort Gibson while Opothleyahola moved further north in The Creek Nation seeking safety for his men, women and children.

Confederate scouts again found Opothleyahola and his followers near the Cherokee Outlet encamped at Chustenalah and on Christmas Day 1861 Confederate troops stormed the camp and overwhelmingly defeated Opothleyahola’s army all of whom had run out of ammunition and supplies. Those lucky enough to escape into the timber were without all of their personal belongings except the clothes on their back and items they could carry.

Christmas night a snow storm of near blizzard proportion descended upon eastern Indian Territory creating unbelievable hardship for Opothleyahola’s followers. Finally over 5,000 Creeks and approximately 1,000 Seminoles under the leadership of Opothleyahola reached Kansas where all the able bodied men immediately joined the United States Army and returned to Indian Territory as the First and Second Union Indian Brigades intent on avenging their previous losses.

During this same time frame Albert Pike returned to Indian Territory after being commissioned as a Confederate Brigadier General due to his recruitment success among the Five Civilized Tribes, he negotiated Treaties with some members of the Five Civilized Tribes which resulted in some military support for the Confederate States of America in Indian Territory.

Confederate General Pike’s first assignment in command of these recruited Indian Regiments was to build a fort near Muskogee. Pike named the new military post Fort Davis to honor the Confederate President Jefferson Davis. Fort Davis was to be the Indian

Territory command post and general supply depot for all Confederate Indian Regiments in eastern Indian Territory.

During March 1862 a Union Army under the command of General Samuel Curtis attacked Confederate forces commanded by General Sterling Price in southern Missouri pushing the Confederates back into northern Arkansas. When this happened the Confederate command ordered General Pike to enter Arkansas with Indian troops to support General Price.

This March 1862 Confederate order was in violation of each and every Five Civilized Tribes’ Treaty with the Confederate States of America, because each treaty stated no Indian Regiment would fight outside of the boundaries of The Indian Territory. In spite of this treaty language, General Pike in command of two Cherokee Regiments went to the aid of General Price and the battle began at Elkhorn Tavern on March 6, 1862 and raged on for two full days.

Colonel Stan Watie’s Cherokee Mounted Rifles were the only Confederate force to win a battle during the two day campaign when they captured a Union artillery position. Colonel Watie held this position while all other Confederate forces retreated across the border into The Indian Territory where they were joined by Colonel Chilly McIntosh’s Creek Regiment and Colonel Cooper’s Choctaw forces that protected their flank while they retreated to safety of Fort Davis.

The defeat in Arkansas inflicted such a loss of men and materials on the Confederacy that they were never able to support the war effort in Indian Territory for the balance of the Civil War and the Five Civilized Tribes were basically on their own militarily for the rest of the war.

From 1862 until June of 1865 military operations in Indian Territory were conducted in a guerilla war fashion. Outlaw gangs of soldiers, deserters and criminals based their so called military operations somewhere in The Indian Territory.

Colonel William Quantrill, a commissioned Confederate officer, waged his

own form of war looting both Union and Confederate towns. His command is infamous for its attack and destruction of Lawrence, Kansas. From time to time Quantrill conducted raids against citizens of the Five Civilized Tribes. This criminal element took full advantage of the Civil War by stealing cattle and horses from Indian ranchers all across The Indian Territory.

Stan Watie, who was also the Chief of the Cherokees, was the only Confederate commander in Indian Territory to follow the rules of war. Watie only pursued military operations against military targets throughout the balance of the war.

The Confederate War Department promoted Colonel Stan Watie to the rank of Brigadier General early in 1864 and he was placed in command of Indian Territory military operations for the Confederacy. General Watie was the last Confederate General to surrender doing so on June 19, 1865 some 71 days after General Robert E. Lee Surrendered to General Ulysses Grant at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865.

The members of the Cherokee, Creek and Seminole Nations suffered heavier losses than any other people in the United States due to the internal tribal strife and overall destruction occasioned by large scale warfare conducted on their own property and sometimes in their backyards.

The Creek Nation was punished after the Civil war and forced to give up title to their western Indian Territory lands. Southern states who seceded from the Union did not suffer a similar punishment and the pre Civil War demand for more Indian land was partially satisfied. Indian Nations from northern states were then moved onto surrendered Creek Nation lands in Indian Territory to satisfy political promises made by Abraham Lincoln during his campaign for President of the United States. This land grab by the United States revealed the true reason for Lincoln’s failure to help Opothleyahola and was but another of the numerous unilateral Indian treaty promises made and broken at the whim of the United States.

UPCOMING SENIOR TRIPS

by Jackson Barnett, Senior Services Manager

For more information or to submit your name(s) for these events contact:

Jackson Barnett
Senior Services Manager
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
(918) 732-7723

March 17th & 18th
Wichita, Kansas

The Creek Seniors chosen for this trip will be will leaving on March 17th at 8:00 a.m. They will depart from the Complex (westside).



Mid America
All Indian Center

"Treasures of the World"
Museum

We will be taking seventeen seniors on this trip. Please include phone numbers for contact purposes.



Late April, 2006
Albuquerque, New Mexico
"Gathering of Nations"

Deadline for submitting names for possible selection is Friday, April 7th, 5:00p.m.

The number of participants will be selected by random draw on Monday, April 10th. Please include a phone number for contact purpose.

Mr. Barnett is requesting that those having taken part in trips to Washington, D.C., Macon Georgia, or Cleveland Tennessee, not submit their names for consideration. He hopes to take those who have not had the opportunity to travel on any senior program sponsored trip.

Branson, Missouri
"Welcome Home"
Ceremony for Vietnam Veterans

The dates and itinerary have not been finalized yet. This letter is to inform our veterans to keep this ceremony in mind. I will be sending out the details as the weeks and time draw near.

The plan is for a senior services program sponsored trip to participate in this occasion. I will be able to take a total of nineteen veterans. Any Mvskoke Veteran 55 years and older will be invited to submit his or her name for possible selection.

New Tradition Clinic
Dr. Lois Beard, DO
Finally! Hope for Diabetes
If you have had Diabetes for 7-10 years, come into our clinic for preventive foot care therapy once a month.
Diabetic Footcare Specialty Clinic
2121 S. 125th E. Ave., Suite 103 ~ Tulsa, OK 74129
for Appointments call: 918-439-3060

Tips from AARP(American Association of Retired Persons)

Foods To Fight Disease

When it comes to food, we can’t ignore the facts — or the science. You need a healthy diet for a healthy life. Research shows a healthy diet could help or prevent a number of health problems, including cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and obesity. And that number keeps growing as researchers learn more about how nutrition affects your health.

What You Should Know

Adopting a disease-fighting diet is easier than you think. When you shop, choose fruits, vegetables, beans, and whole grains, such as brown rice and whole-wheat bread. Avoid foods high in sugar and fat. Here are some tips for arming yourself against disease with good-for-you foods:

Follow the Food Guide Pyramid

This guide tells you what foods to include in your diet each day and in what portions. It shows you how to have a balanced diet by eating foods from all the basic food groups:

- milk, yogurt and cheese (two to three servings; one cup of milk or yogurt would be one serving)
- meat, poultry, fish, dry beans, eggs, and nuts (two to three servings; one serving would be two eggs, ½ cup of tuna fish, or about ½ of a skinless, cooked chicken breast)
- fruit (two to four servings; one serving would be a medium-sized apple or banana, ½ cup of canned fruit, or ¼ cup of dried fruit)
- vegetable (three to five servings; one serving would be ½ cup of raw or cooked vegetables or one cup of raw, leafy vegetables, such as spinach or lettuce)
- bread, cereal, rice, and pasta (six to 11 servings; a slice of bread, ½ bagel or English muffin, or ½ cup of pasta would be a serving)

Think color

When it comes to fruit and vegetables, eat lots of deep-colored produce. Oranges and dark berries, like blueberries and cranberries, are especially rich in natural plant chemicals that can protect you against diseases like cancer and heart disease, according to the American Dietetic Association. Orange and dark green vegetables, such as carrots, sweet potatoes, and spinach are also rich in these plant chemicals.

Remember fiber

Eating lots of fruits and vegetables will give your body extra water and fiber, which will help keep your digestive tract clean and healthy. Beans, bran, whole-grain breads and brown rice, and high-fiber cereals are also good sources of fiber.

Make good bacteria your friend

Fermented foods like yogurt are especially good for you as you get older because they contain “good” bacteria that keep your digestive tract healthy. Check food labels for these bacteria. They will say “contains active cultures.” The more cultures listed, the healthier the food. The good bacteria in these foods also fight the bad bacteria that can enter your body through spoiled food and make you sick.

Eat fatty fish

Your body needs some fats to stay healthy, and the fats found in fish like salmon and tuna are good for your heart. Fish also provides a rich source of protein without the large amount of unhealthy fat you get from red meat.

Try soy

Eating about one to two ounces of soy protein daily can help lower cholesterol and unhealthy fat in your diet and protect you from heart disease. You can find many different soy products, which come from soybeans, in your food store. The most popular are tofu, soy milk (in different flavors), soy burgers and hot dogs, soy ice cream, soy nut butter, and soy flour.

Drink plenty of water

To stay healthy, drink at least eight glasses of water daily. Pay special attention to drinking enough because your thirst decision dulls with age, and remember that if you’re thirsty, you’re already dehydrated.

Following a healthy diet, along with regular exercise, will prevent you from gaining weight, which is important for good health. Losing 10 percent of your body weight, for instance, could be enough to lower your cholesterol. Choose healthy foods for a longer and healthier life!

Information derived from www.aarp.org/health/staying_healthy.

Church ActivitiesWILD ONION DINNERS

Mary Lee Clark United Methodist Church
DEL CITY — Mary Lee Clark United Methodist Church will be having their Wild Onion Dinner on March 18 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.
The church is located at 1100 Howard Drive.
For more information, contact (405) 740-4662 or (405) 672-6420.

Concharty Church
BIXBY — Concharty Church will be having their Wild Onion Dinner on March 25 from 10:30 a.m. until 3 p.m.
For more information, call (918) 366-8450.

Church ActivitiesREVIVALS

Grave Creek Baptist Church
HITCHITA — Grave Creek Baptist Church will be having their revival on April 24 through 28 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly.
For more information, call (918) 752-0980.

Church ActivitiesEASTER

Concharty Church
BIXBY — Concharty Church will be having their Easter services on April 16. Morning services will begin at 11 a.m.

Grave Creek Baptist Church
HITCHITA — Grave Creek Baptist Church will be having their Easter services on April 16. Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. and morning services will start at 11 a.m.
For more information, call (918) 752-0980.

Honey Creek Methodist Church
WILSON — Honey Creek Methodist Church will be having their Easter services on April 16. Morning services will begin at 11 a.m.

Church Activities

Randall Indian Baptist Church
WILSON — Randall Indian Baptist Church will be having a benefit food sale on March 25 beginning at 11 a.m.
The menu consists of: Indian Tacos, Beans & Fry bread, Chicken & Dump-lings, Salt Meat, Hamburgers, Sofke, Pies and Cakes.
The church is located one mile south and one mile west of Wilson School.

Women’s Conference
WEATHERFORD — The Western Oklahoma Indian Baptist Women’s Con-ference will be held Apr. 7 and 8 at the Family Life Center, First Baptist Church. The church is located at 1510 East Davis Road.
Bible study presenters will be Charlene Pickup, Madeline Kervin, Dara Thorpe and Beverly Watson. Music leaders are Delana Deere and Kelli Komahcheet.
This year’s conference theme is “How does Christian Values apply to home, work and church.”
The conference will start Friday at 6 p.m. with registration, snacks and a mini concert. Saturday morning will begin at 8:30 a.m. with bible study, breakout sessions, lunch, crafts and will end at 3:30 p.m. All ladies of all ages are invited to attend. No child care will be provided.
For more information, contact Kathy Deere at (405) 447-1247 or (405) 816-7874 after 8 p.m. or e-mail at absnteshw52@yahoo.com.

Grave Creek Baptist Church
OKMULGEE — Grave Creek Baptist Church will be having a garage sale and Indian Taco sale on April 16 at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center. The garage sale begins at 9 a.m.
For more information, call (918) 752-0980.

Oklahoma United Methodists respond to wildfires

OKLAHOMA CITY — The readiness to help has hurdled faith lines in the response to the wildfires criss-crossing Oklahoma.
The response of Oklahoma Annual Conference churches at Davis and Seminole as well as by the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference provides insight into what it means to be good neighbors in a time of danger and extreme need.
The chain of fires has killed two people, destroyed 250 homes and consumed more than 400,000 acres since Dec. 26, and wildfires also have raged in Texas and New Mexico.
Seminole and its surrounding areas were devastated by major wildfires that have been sweeping across the state since Christmas. Interfaith Social Min-istries is providing help to the victims. The alliance’s primary partners are Bap-tist, United Methodist and Catholic.
“Most of the work that’s done here is the community working together,” said Gary Wilburn, pastor of Seminole United Methodist Church. “I went to the pastor of First Baptist and said, ‘Do you realize

what it would do for the community to see you and me working together?’ We had already started doing that when the fires came.”
“After the fires, Lions International donated \$7,000 to be distributed as \$150 vouchers for clothing, food, or medicine through three local Lions clubs,” Wilburn said. Seminole United Methodist Church members also volunteer on the board of the local food bank.
“We have not had a home lost among our church members, but we have had several of our ranchers who lost their pastures and their hay, and one lost some vehicles. Some animals died in the fires or had to be put down,” Wilburn said.
The Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference’s disaster response program has been helping two families recover after wildfires devastated their lives the day after Christmas, said the Rev. David Wilson, conference superintendent.
The Rev. Kelly Tiger, 69, pastor of Hilltop Indian Presbyterian Church in Wewoka and a well-known personality in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Con-

Pastor’s CornerWesley Berry, Crosstown Church Okmulgee, Oklahoma

What does Bible Prophecy say about the Oil Crisis? Well, before we indulge into the word of God concerning end time prophecy, let me make this statement. No book in the whole world dealing with the affairs of mankind has had such a revolutionary influence, such a decisive affect on the development of the western civilization, or such a worldwide effect as the inspired, unadulterated word of God. The book we call the BIBLE....Science books have been revised, History books rewritten, Books of the Law changed and added to, BUT THE BIBLE HAS PAST THE TEST OF TIME. Today it is translated into, 1,660 languages and dialects and still over 2000 years later gives no sign of having exhausted its influence nor have the need to be updated. It was, it is, it will always be THE ANSWER TO EVERY QUESTION OR PROBLEM MANKIND WILL EVER HAVE!
Now that we have established that, let’s look into the word of God and see what Bible Prophecy says about the Oil Crisis. God promised the children of Israel that he would give them a *land that floweth with milk and honey*, according to Lev. 20:24. When you break down this scripture in the Hebrew, some amazing insight comes forth. The word *floweth* is the Hebrew word *zuwb* (pronounced zoob) which means to flow freely without restraint. In the Hebrew it specifically describing a woman’s menstrual cycle, with the emphasis on, the inability to stop or control the discharge. The next word we will focus on is *milk*, *milk* is the Hebrew word *chalab* (pronounced khaw-lawb’) which means the richest or choice part, that makes one fat. The last word is *honey*, *honey* is the Hebrew word *debash* (pronounced deb-ash’) which means for some-thing to be gummy, sticky, or it’s content to be syrup like. Let me put this information into understandable knowledge. According to Lev. 20:24, You will inherit land, that I (God) will give unto you to possess it, a land that floweth, (it’s discharge cannot be stopped or controlled by man) with milk (that the content of what is discharged is rich in value and will make you prosperous) and honey (for its substance will be gummy, sticky and syrup like). It doesn’t sound to me that God is talking about cows and bees. And, I don’t believe it is a stretch of the imagination, to say that, what God is possibly talking about is OIL!
Let’s look at some more scriptures, starting with Gen. 49:1, And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you *in the last days*. Jacob the patriarch calls all of his sons together, for the purpose of focusing their minds on what will become of their families in the last days. I believe Jacob knew the importance of reminding his sons of their lineage and also their inheritance. I want to take a moment away from this article and say to whoever may be reading this, Never forget the importance of reminding your children of their lineage and of their inheritance. Back to the article, Listen to what Jacob says to his sons in Gen. 49:25, Even by the God of thy father, who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, *blessings of the deep that lieth under*, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb. Wow, did you get that, *blessings of the deep that lieth under!* The Amplified Bible says it this way, *Blessings lying in the deep beneath*. It sounds to me that God has something in store in the form of a blessing for Israel, something that won’t be revealed until *the last days*.
There’s still another prophetic promise for Israel found in Deut. 33:19, For they shall suck of the abundance of the seas, and of the treasures hid in the sand. Is it just me or is that an unusual way of receiving a blessing? For Israel to receive this abundance of the sea and the treasure hid in the sand, they have to *suck it up*. This terminology sounds very familiar to the process it takes to produce oil, not to mention the locations of these particular blessings. Is it just coincidence or is God showing us a road map to where these blessings are hid? Remember they’re hid until the last days.
In reading Proverbs 13:22 it is amazingly insightful, A good man leaveth an inher-itage to his children’s children (IN THE LAST DAYS); And the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just. When a person examines the geographical and geological maps of the Middle East, it is astonishing to note that the Dead Sea is the lowest point in that region, in fact it was formed remarkable in the shape of a funnel. It is also something to take into consideration that the lay of the under ground rock formation is such that if for some reason someone would happen to drill and oil well in the Dead Sea and strike oil, the graviational pull would automatically drain all the other oil fields in that particular region and therefore causing one of the greatest *OIL GUSHERS* known to mankind. You may be asking yourself could this really be? My response to you is this, what else in the end times would cause the nations of the world to want to invade and take control of *LITTLE OL’ ISRAEL*.
Be watching for next months article, OIL CRISIS Part 3, I know you will be blessed. Just remember If God be for you, who in this world can be against you.
You are cordially invited to come and experience the awesome ministry of Dr. Sherlock Bally, March 26th thru March29th, 7:00 o’clock nightly @ Crosstown Church, 6th and Kern, Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

by United Methodist News Service

Agency won’t cover. Norean Tiger, Kelly Tiger’s wife, is Creek, and Kelly was Creek and Seminole.
“The families lost everything and will be in need of all kinds of items to begin their lives in their new homes,” said Phillis McCarty, director of the conference’s disaster response program. “We want to help them in any way pos-sible.” The disaster response program provided a limited amount of funding im-mediately after the fires to members to help with immediate needs.
“We are thankful for our disaster response program because it helps serve its purpose in times like these,” Wilson said.
The conference has also been as-sured assistance from the United Meth-odist Committee on Relief if needed. It “feel(s) good to see that United Meth-odist officials so far away respond to our needs before we ask,” Wilson said. “It is great to feel a part of this connection that is the United Methodist Church.”
More work lies ahead for the churches in both the Oklahoma and Okla-homa Indian Missionary conferences.

BIRTHS

Dezmond Lynn Lewis

OKMULGEE — Dezmond Lynn Lewis was born on Jan. 18 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Yolanda Monahwee and Marcus Lewis of Morris.

She weighed 6 pounds and 10 ounces and was 18 1/2 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are JoAnna King and Yommie Monahwee, both of Morris. Paternal grandparents are Lousenda and Keven Pannell of Morris and Marlon and Beth Lewis of Texas.

Maternal great grandparents are Marianne Scott of Morris. Paternal great grandparents are Sam and Pauline Pointer of Tiger Mountain and Sally Lewis of Hoffman.

Dezmond belongs to the Wind clan.



Kelly of Okmulgee.

He has two older sisters, Jonna, age seven and Brionna, age four.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Catelin King

MUSKOGEE — Catelin King was recently crowned as American’s Cover Miss Pageant at Muskogee Civic Assembly Center on Jan. 28. She won in the age category newborn to 3.

She is the daughter of Chantell M. King of Muskogee.

Maternal grandparents are Sally Louise and Phillip Dozier of Muskogee, and Stanley W. King, Sr. of Tenkiller Lake.

Great grandparents are Louise and Amos Harjo of Muskogee and Shirley and John Russell of Tenkiller Lake.

Catelin is the great-great granddaughter of the late Emily and Turner Bear, Sr. of Checotah.

She is a member of the bear clan and a descendent of Eufaula Canadian tribal town.



BIRTHDAYS

Sareena Barker

TULSA — Sareena will celebrate her fourth birthday on March 17 with a party at her home with family and friends.

She is the daughter of Christopher Barker and June Barker of Tulsa.

Maternal grandparents are Olan and Carol Wilson of Tulsa. Paternal grandparents are Jocelyn Scales of Tulsa and Richard Barker of Columbus, Ohio.

Sareena has one brother, Christopher and one sister, Breonna Barker.



Chiler B. Edwards

OKMULGEE — Chiler B. Edwards turned two on Feb. 16. He celebrated on Feb. 18 with family and friends at his home with a Blue’s Clue’s theme.

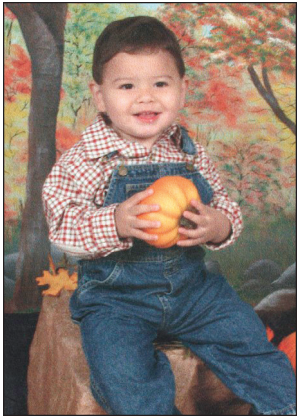
Special guest aunt Tina Gouge of Toronto, Canada attended.

He is the son of Anne Townsend-Edwards of Okmulgee and Bobby D. Edwards of Anadarko.

Maternal grandmother is Elizabeth Townsend of Okmulgee. Paternal grandparents are Linda Edwards and the late Delos Edwards of Wichita, Kansas.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Sally Spaniard Gouge and Albert Gouge of Hanna.

Chiler is a member of the Deer clan and Weogufkee tribal town.



Arianna Maelyn Osborne

OKEMAH — Arianna Maelyn Osborne was crowned Miss Christmas Queen in the 12 to 23 months category. She also placed first runner-up in the Henryetta Christmas Pageant.

Arianna is the daughter of Gary and Shelley Osborne of Bristow.

Maternal grandparents are Simmer and Sharon Hicks of Okemah. Paternal grandparents are Marilyn Stanfill of Scranton, Alaska.

Great grandparents are the late Joe and Lorene Hicks; Thomas and Ethleen Harjo of Oklahoma City; Bill O’Quinn of Scranton, Alaska and Mary O’Quinn of Eudroa, Mississippi.

Arianna belongs to the Okfuskee ceremonial grounds and a member of the Wind clan.



Glenpool JOM

GLENPOOL — The Glenpool JOM 4th and 5th graders recently had the opportunity to learn about “painting with Native Soils” artist Woody Baldwin and guest Carolyn Matthews taught students about fungus that bugs carry and infect trees and soil.

Baldwin also uses infected wood to do his artwork using the lines from the infected trees. Student got to process soil and then paint with the many color of Oklahoma soil. “Student being able to create things with their own hands and learn about their natural environment helps promote self-esteem”



Hepsey Gilroy

OKMULGEE — The children of Hepsey Gilroy would like to invite family and friends to join them in celebrating her 95th birthday on April 22 from 1 to 4 p.m.

The celebration will take place at the East Central Electric Co-op Community building located 2001 South Wood Drive. A light lunch will be served.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Wanda Morrison at w Morrison2003@yahoo.com or (505) 795-7299 or Norma Jemerson at msnormas@yahoo.com or (949) 551-1134.

Jonas Thornton Jr.

OKMULGEE — Jonas Thornton Jr. turned one on Feb. 2. He celebrated on Jan. 28 at his home with family and friends.

He is the son of Jonas and Rayna Thornton of Okmulgee.

Maternal grandmother is Ramona Butler of Tulsa. Paternal grandparents are Ruby Roberts and Quinton (Sunny) Neil, both of Okmulgee.

Jonas is the great grandson of Juanita



WEDDINGS

Holuby & Martin

EUREKA SPRINGS, Arkansas — Michael Holuby and Lana Martin were united in marriage in Eureka Springs on Feb. 18.

Michael is the son of Sandra Holuby. Lana is the daughter of Chefton and Sandra Martin of Tahlequah.

The couple will reside in Muskogee.



You're at Home with BOK's Native American Home Financing Program

- Low Down Payment
- No Monthly Mortgage Insurance
- For New Construction or Purchase of an Existing Home
- Additional Tribal Assistance May be Available

Ask Us Today For Program Details.

BOK Mortgage

215 State St., Muskogee
(918) 686-5959 • (800) 947-2655

Equal Housing Lender • www.bok.com

American Family Mortgage Company

Live the American Dream...with less financial stress and more peace of mind.*

GOOD CREDIT ~ NOT SO GOOD CREDIT

we have dozens of mortgage programs available!

- * 1-4 family residences
- * Rural homes on acreage
- * Non-owner occupied houses
- * Property in foreclosure
- * Debt Consolidations up to 125% of property value
- * Second Homes
- * 100% Financing for purchasesd *w.a.c.

Stan Kessler

601 S. Boulder, Suite 1320
Petroleum Club Building ~ Tulsa, OK 74119
(918) 582-7984 ~ (866) 582-7984
email: skessler@amfammortgage.com
website: www.amfammortgage.com

Creek Filmmaker enjoys media success

“There are many great stories to be told about the Creek Nation and Oklahoma. I hope I can someday bring a few of those to the screen.”

By Gerald Wofford
MNN Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES — Muscogee (Creek) people have certainly enjoyed success in the areas of film and video. The notoriety of Will Sampson is widely known, but others such as Bob Hicks, Monty Bass, and Salina Jayne, who was featured in the November issue of the *Muscogee Nation News* is further proof.

Another person that certainly deserves the ‘Spotlight,’ pun intended, is Tom Harjo.

Harjo is a major part of the Hollywood filmmaking machine, having worked on numerous commercial films and television productions for at least two decades. Remember *Titanic*, Harjo was a part of the crew that helped to create an epic.

It’s 4:00 a.m. in the morning on the west coast, Los Angeles to be exact, it’s 6:00 a.m. here in Oklahoma, but that is still very early. Tom Harjo is getting his daily work out and exercise before he is required to report on the set.

“Currently, I’m the Key Grip on *ER*,” says Harjo. “We shoot on the Warner Bros. lot in Burbank. I’ve been here for five years and I hope to be here for a few more. It’s the longest job I’ve ever had, in the industry or out.”

The term ‘Key Grip’ is a title given to someone who helps produce a film, documentary, or television program in a ‘behind the scenes’ manner such as lighting, sound, or even some set construction at times. If you are one who sit and watch the credits and listen to the music after a movie is over, chances are you have seen the words ‘key grip’ scroll by and have seen Tom Harjo’s name next to it.

Harjo, as mentioned before, has been in the business of filmmaking for quite a while and he is very good at what he does. In 1997, Harjo was awarded the ‘Outstanding Technical Achievement in the Technical Arts by First Americans in the Arts’, an award he is deservedly quite proud of.

Back to Harjo’s working days, he is up very early and the usual glamor days that people tend to associate with movie making isn’t what it is really all about. “Monday through Friday I get up at 4:00 a.m. to go to the gym before work,” says Harjo. “My call time, the time I need to show up for work, is usually 7:00 a.m. Six Hours later is an hour lunch break. And we generally finish our day six hours after that. Some days more, some days less. It all depends on how much work is scheduled for that day. But that’s on *ER*. I’ve worked regular 14 to 16 hour days on other shows. And if the show is on-location we usually work 6 day weeks. The best thing and the worst thing about the movie business is that no two days are ever the same.”

But Harjo would not have it any other way, filmmaking, pictures, and every other facet with it, has always been in his blood even when he was a young Creek boy growing up in Tulsa, Oklahoma. “I’ve always been interested in photography. As a child I collected Brownie Box cameras I found at garage sales. My dad would also let me use his 35mm camera and I made 8mm movies with our family’s camera,” says Harjo.

The budding Creek artist was a bit of a video maverick as he got a little older, trying his hand at a visual form that the general public would embrace later. “In high school my friends and I made 16mm films,” remembers Harjo.

“We also had access to a brand new technology for the 1970’s, a portable video camera! We would invade

transmitter engineer.”

By now Harjo was really involved with his craft and knew how to

show business without knowing a little bit about the show. Harjo points to the movie *Committed* as his opportunity



Filmmaker and Muscogee (Creek) citizen Tom Harjo on the set of *ER*, taking a well deserved break before shooting resumes.

a U-Tote-Ums or a Winchell’s and make our 70’s ‘Punk’d’ videos.”

By now, the film bug had taken a bite out of Harjo, and he wanted to continue on and learn more about this craft.

“I believe any good Native actor or actress can transcend the stereotype. The key is solid training in the craft of acting.”

“In my senior year we were required to do an internship at a local business,” says Harjo. “I chose to intern in the production photography department of KTEW, now KJRH Channel 2, in Tulsa. There I helped make commercials, once with Mazeppa, aka Gailard Sartain, public service announcements and extended news stories for the station.”

Sartain is another Oklahoma local who made it good in Hollywood, having roles in movies such as: *Fried Green Tomatoes*, *The Outsiders*, and *The Buddy Holly Story*.

But Harjo considers time spent with area television newsmen, Jerry Webber, as a time he will always cherish. Webber was a longtime television news anchor at Channel 2. “Once I was lucky enough to go on a shoot with sportscaster Jerry Webber to his hometown and have lunch with his family,” says Harjo. “After attending Lake Forest College, class of 80, I found a job as a Studio Camera Operator at KOTV, Channel 6, in Tulsa. I operated a camera during newscasts and for other in-studio productions like the ‘Morning Show’. I later moved to the Engineering Department. There I operated the videotape machines, the audio switcher and I worked as the

operate basically every major piece of television equipment from lighting to editing to directing a newscast, Harjo was not only skilled, but was qualified to teach as well.

It would not be too long before he would have his chance to mentor. “With this experience, I moved on to a job with the Kiamichi Area Vo-Tech in McAlester, Oklahoma,” recalls Harjo. “There I was a Video Producer for a Title IV-A Indian Education program. I produced, directed, photographed, edited and narrated videos about American Indians for Indian children. The videos taught Indian children about Indians. The program was open to all Indian children regardless of blood quantum. We had a few 1/164ths.”

As mentioned earlier, Muscogee (Creek) people have certainly enjoyed their success in the areas of film and video, and it wouldn’t be too long for Harjo, at this point in his life to come in contact with another Muscogee (Creek) who was already out on the west coast making his mark in the film world. “During this time I was fortunate to meet Creek tribal member, Bob Hicks,” says Harjo. “He had just graduated from the American Film Institute, where he was the first American Indian student and he suggested that I apply there.” Now Harjo had heard about the American Film Institute (AFI) and decided it was the right move, Harjo would be a natural for the major move. “My year at AFI was one of best in my life. I was exposed to the film business by actively participating in it. I went as a Cinematography Fellow,” says Harjo.

After graduating from AFI, Harjo set out to make his mark in the film business, he had earned his SAG (screen actors guild) card which made him eligible to work on union-based film productions. That was 1980, Harjo is celebrating 26 years in the filmmaking business and continues to make his talent known, not only behind the camera, but Harjo is also known to do a little acting as well. After all , you cannot be involved with

to shine in front of the lens. Not only the chance to shine, but to actually portray a part that wasn’t exactly a Native American role. “In *Committed*, I play a Mexican in it, as well. I have my own chapter button on the DVD,” says Harjo.

Yes, a Native American playing the part of a Mexican, and why not. Movies of the past certainly show us where Italians, Asians, and Hispanics have played the part of Native Americans as well. In fact, it was the hope of Will Sampson to portray an Italian on the big screen someday. Of course, he never got his wish, but Harjo has seen other Native Americans reach that goal, and be successful at it. “Wes Studi has done it,” says Harjo when pointing to Native Actors playing non-traditional roles. “Graham Greene has done it. I believe any good Native actor or actress can transcend the stereotype. The key is solid training in the craft of acting.”

And it is the craft of acting, the craft of lighting, sound engineering and every other facet that Harjo takes very seriously when approaching filmmaking. Harjo wouldn’t point fingers exactly, but mentions a bad project that he has worked on. “The worst is the one that was poorly planned and thus poorly executed,” says Harjo, but also points to an ironic twist to these type of films. “But it’s also the one that usually supplies the best stories. The best film is always the one you are currently working on. It’s the one that’s paying the bills.”

Harjo still has a few more goals to reach in the movie making business, “I’m planning to shoot a documentary during my *ER* hiatus,” he says with a possible return to Oklahoma and to produce a documentary here. “I get back to Oklahoma as much as I can but it’s never enough,” Harjo confides. “There are many great stories to be told about the Creek Nation and Oklahoma. I hope I can someday bring a few of those to the screen.”

With his skill and talent, odds are that the Creek filmmaker will certainly do it.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

A.D. ELLIS, in his official capacity as)
Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek))
Nation,) Case No. SC 05-03/SC 05-05
Plaintiff,)
V.)
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION)
NATIONAL COUNCIL,)
Defendant.)

PER CURIAM
CHIEF JUSTICE LARRY OLIVER, VICE CHIEF JUSTICE DENETTE MOUSER, JUSTICE AMOS McNAC, JUSTICE GEORGE ALMERIGI AND JUSTICE HOUSTON SHIRLEY.

Attorneys for Plaintiff: Rod Wiemer
Attorney at Law
114 North Grand, Suite 200
Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447

Timothy S. Posey
Hall, Estill, Hardwick,
Gable, Golden & Nelson
320 South Boston Avenue, Suite 400
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Attorney for Defendant: Geoffrey Standing Bear
Attorney at Law
Post Office Box 1049
Pawhuska, Oklahoma 74056

OPINION

Mvskokvlke Fvtcecko Cuko Hylwat vkerrickv hyakat oketv yvnke vhakv hakaten acakkayen momen entenfvtectv, hvttvm Mvskoke Etlvhwilke telike vhakv empvtakv.

The above captioned consolidated cases came on for hearing on the 6th day of January, 2006. Plaintiff appeared in person and by his attorneys, Rod W. Wiemer and Timothy S. Posey. Defendant appeared through Speaker, Thomas Yahola and by its attorney, Geoffrey Standing Bear.

FINDING OF FACTS

Having heard the testimony and the agreements and stipulations of the parties, and having examined all of the pleadings, the Court finds:

- 1)Plaintiff, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, filed case number SC 2005-03 on June 30, 2005 and filed his amended Petition on August 12, 2005.
- 2)On August 26, 2005 oral argument proceeded on this case on Defendant’s Motion to Dismiss this case.
- 3)On August 31, 2005, this Court overruled Defendant’s Motion to Dismiss and Ordered the parties to Mediation;
- 4)Following mediation, the Parties effectuated a Settlement Agreement on October 31, 2005 and filed it with the Court on December 7, 2005. The Court did not accept or adopt this Settlement Agreement because this Court believes it does not adequately address constitutional the issues before the Court.
- 5)Plaintiffsubsequently filed another Petition, case number SC 2005-05, with this Court on December 20, 2005 alleging among other things a breach of the Settlement Agreement;
- 6)On December 22, 2005 the Court consolidated these cases into one action: SC 2005-03 and granted Plaintiffs Temporary Injunction;
- 7)On January 6, 2006, Oral Argument was heard on this case and the parties were Ordered by this Court to re-evaluate the Settlement Agreement submitted to this court on December 7, 2005 and to revisit language in .the Settlement Agreement as it was too vague and arbitrary;
- 8)On January 16, 2006, the Parties to this dispute submitted an Agreed Journal Entry of Judgment that this Court believes is grossly inadequate in supplying an ending to this litigation;
- 9) The success of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation lies in the stability, continuity, hospitality, and flexibility of the three branches of government that are charged with leading this Nation;
- 10)The facts and issues presented to the Court conclusively show that the parties have mindsets that further their particular branch’s objectives and impede the effective governance of this Nation’s citizenry;
- 11)This Court declines to approve the Agreed Journal Entry as submitted by these parties to this Court on January 16, 2006.

Therefore it is the **OPINION** of this Court that:

1. This Court is the proper Court in which to hear this dispute.

This Court has stated previously that:
“when there is a question as to whether the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution has been in followed in legislative or executive actions, this Court has jurisdiction to interpret those actions in light of the Nation’s Constitution.”
Alexander v. Gouge & Huff, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 226 (Jan. 16,2003)

2. The Office of the Principal Chief is vested with executive powers and the National Council is vested with legislative powers.

This Court is vitally concerned with any ongoing disputes between the Office of the Principal Chief and the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The actions or inactions of the parties to any dispute go to the very core of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the stability of its government, and in doing so, this Court must take action to, in so far as possible under the issues herein presented, describe the powers and limitations of the Legislative and Executive branches.

The central starting point to addressing all of the grievances filed in both SC 05-03 and SC 05-05, appears to rest squarely on the issue of separation of powers. Our jurisprudence in this area is not weak. The very essence of separation of powers is an easy enough concept to grasp: government can best be sustained by dividing the various powers and functions of government among separate and relatively independent governmental entities; no single branch of government is able to exercise complete authority and each is dependent on the other. This autonomy prevents powers from being concentrated in one branch of government, yet, the independence of each helps keep the others from exceeding their powers.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has a long history of practicing separation of powers as is apparent in the teachings of some of the earliest declarations of this Court. This Court, exercising its powers of judicial review in reviewing an enactment of the National Council and the powers of the Nation’s three branches stated in 1885: “The very nature of the resolution is in conflict with the spirit and teachings of the Constitution and Council has not rights or powers to pass and enforce such resolutions. The Court through that, the resolution having passed through the proper channels and received the approval and signature of Gov Perryman [Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief] thereby becoming and assuming a statutory enactment, it would be prudent to suspend proceedings until the requested legal reasons therefore contemplated by resolution is received from Gov Perryman. This was afterward departed from by the Court and ruled that there was no Constitutional or statutory provision authorizing any authority or officer to order a stay of proceedings after a case has been duly docketed and time appointed for its consideration. This was substantiated by the fact that no precedent of this Nation could be cited or found in the records of this or any other Court in the Nation. Motion to proceed with the trial in ignorance of the resolution was granted by the Court which was proceeded with.”
Muscogee Nation v. Tiger; 7 Mvs. L. Rep. 8, Volume 10, Page 65, Original Handwritten Volume (October 16, 1885)

Though the term “separation of powers” is not specifically delineated in the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution, this Court stated in *Beaver v. National Council* 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 28 (Muscogee (Creek) 1986), “the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is patterned after the United States Constitution with respect to separation of powers.” We further expounded on this notion in *Cox v. Kamp*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 75 (Muscogee (Creek) 1991) saying that “each branch of government has special limitations placed on it” and “there must be a balance of powers.” Finally, we also articulated that “the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution intended to incorporate into it the basic parts of the separation of powers between the three branches of government.” *Id.*

We noted in *Cox* that the duty of this Court is not to merely give definitions to words within the law, but to determine the intent and scope behind the words. The United States Supreme Court articulated this in *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361 (1989), “we have not hesitated to strike down provisions of law that either accrete to a single Branch powers more appropriately diffused among separate Branches or that undermine the authority and independence of one or another coordinate Branch.” *Id* at 382.

This Court approves and adopts the reasoning of the United States Supreme Court in *Mistretta*. This Court will not hesitate to strike down provisions of the proposed Agreed Journal Entry which the parties submitted to this Court. The Court finds the Agreed Journal Entry as submitted, is insufficient to satisfy a conclusion and peaceful resolution to this litigation. Nor can it assist in preventing future conflicts between the Legislative and Executive branches. The Agreed Journal Entry as presented by the parties is vague and incomplete and we believe it grants powers to one or the other branch that are not found or allowed in the Nation’s Constitution.

Often as members of a tribal governing body we must put aside personal agendas, prejudices and biases to work together for the best interest of the Nation. This Court agrees that the parties need to go back and read the plain language of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

It has always been this Court’s contention that if the language and words are clear and definite in meaning, the words shall be followed as they were intended. The Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation “must

be strictly construed and interpreted and where the Constitution speaks in plain language with reference to a particular matter, the Court must not place a different meaning on the words.” *See: Cox* at 79.

“The Executive Power shall be vested in and shall be known as the Office of the Principal Chief.” *Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Article V, § 1(a)*. Under the doctrine of separation of powers, the executive branch is the branch of government charged with implementing, and/or executing the law and running the day-to-day affairs of the government. “All legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council....” *Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Article VI, § 2*. Also, under the doctrine of separation of powers, the legislative branch is charged with legislating; making laws by which the citizenry abide and the Nation runs. Article VI, § 7 of the Constitution is of particular interest in this case. Section 7 states “the National Council shall have power (subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States of America) to *legislate on matters subject to limitations...*” (emphasis added).

This Court believes the intent is clear and unambiguous. The Office of the Principal Chief is vested with executive powers and the National Council is vested with legislative powers. The legislative branch does not have the authority to mandate any member of the executive branch to take or refrain from taking any action without due process of law. Likewise, the executive branch does not have the authority to mandate that the legislative branch regulate in areas that are left squarely to that branch in the Constitution.

3. That the proposed Agreed Journal Entry jointly submitted by the parties is insufficient to fully and properly address the issues in dispute in this litigation.

Turning our attention to the Agreed Journal Entry, the parties offered: “In order to set forth with greater specificity the roles and authority of the Principal Chief as chief executive officer of the Executive Branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the National Council as the legislative branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as related to the claims made in this case...” The Court asks the parties -Does the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Ordinances of this Nation not answer these questions? And is an Agreed Journal Entry sufficient enough a document to “specify the roles” of two of our three branches of government? As to the latter, this Court thinks not and believes the proposed Agreed Journal Entry sets a dangerous precedent for all future relations between the separate but equal branches of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution cannot be infringed upon or expounded on simply by words in a superfluous document disguised as an “agreed order.” There are defined procedures in place to amend our Constitution if there are deemed to be inadequacies with the delineated responsibilities of the differing branches. Our Constitution, much like that of the United States Constitution, has long held the utmost respected role in our government. To infringe upon it with an Agreed Journal Entry is an insult to the people of this Nation. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution is the epitome of what makes the Muscogee Nation great; a document that has withstood the test of time, trials and tribulations, forced assimilation, statehood and eventual rebirth. Through it all, this Nation’s Constitution with the separation of powers doctrine embodied in it has emerged virtually unscathed in thought and spirit. To allow an Agreed Journal Entry to supercede the Constitution’s powers appears to this Court a very unwise leap to make.

Our decision is not without some prescience from our predecesso-rs on the bench. Chief Justice D.A. Carr in an opinion penned in 1884 discussed the constitutionality of a statute prohibiting citizens of the Nation from employing non-citizens as workers within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. In doing so, Chief Justice Carr discussed the Constitution’ in the rubric of making decisions that affect the citizenry of the Muscogee people. We find his wisdom profound. Chief Justice Carr stated:

“Referring to Zaus question whether or not an act of the Walience Commit. [sic] which in effect would prohibit a citizen from employing a non-citizen would be constitutional it is explicit, that in order to arrive at a proper decision on any like question, it is necessary first to arrive as nearly as possible at the posit and purpose of that instrument [constitution] so far as these may seem to embrace and effect the subject in question. In order to accomplish this with a reason of certainty it becomes legitimate to consider some of the circumstances which by a fair deduction may be designated as the operating causes which confined it the origins to this paramount law of our nation. By this method alone can the principles and purposes which operated in bringing about its adoption by the people be discovered... The Muscogee found that the rights of the People of other nations were carefully guarded by a paramount law called a constitution over which neither Chief nor council could pass and which unlike everything the Muscogee had was an effective safeguard to the rights of the people. They discovered that the nation might have [succumbed] as especially many evils already suffered had the rights of the people [not] been properly safeguarded. They discovered that the rights of the people were left open to violations by a reckless council or the usurpation of an ambitious Chief. They discovered that the time might come when an embittered council might assess exorbitant taxes on the industries of the people, together with such the burdens as would hurt the progress of the people. Therefore it has a check upon Chief and Council and “establish justice, and secure it to ourselves and our children the blessings of freedom.” They adopted the Constitution...

¹*Justice Carr was referring to the 1867 Constitution but the present 1979 Constitution incorporates the same fundamental principles of separation of powers and government except that the House of Warriors and the House of Kings have been combined into one legislative body; the National Council.*

Crabtree v. Goat, 7 Mvs. L. Rep. 319-320, Original Bound Volume 48, Pages 4-5 (October 15, 1884).

This Court cannot overstate the importance of the role of the branches of government to the continued success and viability of this Nation. The roles of the different branches are clearly defined both in the Constitution of the Nation and in its laws, and as we stated *supra*, there are proper procedures in place to amend the Constitution of this Nation, and those procedures should not be assumed by a document proposing to be an Agreed Journal Entry in a lawsuit litigated between the Principal Chief and the National Council.

However, the Court is also mindful of as our role as arbitrator of disputes and there are times that additional clarification to the Constitution meaning is needed. The Court, therefore, feels that clarifications should be made to the party’s Agreement without intruding on the inviolability of our Constitution.

A. Executive Branch Powers and Executive Employees

Under the Doctrine of Separation of Powers, the Executive Branch as set out in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution Article V, and further as organized in the laws in Title 16 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code, -“Executive Branch” shall remain in full force and effect unless duly changed by proper procedures to secure a Constitutional Amendment or by Tribal Resolution. Further; as the head of the Executive Branch, the Principal Chief continues to have the authority to deal with all Executive Branch employment decisions, except over independent agencies as will be discussed *infra*; including but not limited to all appointments as set out in the Constitution of this Nation and any laws that the National Council shall enact. It is also the function of the Executive Branch to continue to deal with its internal employment decisions, excluding those employment decisions over independent agencies (gaming, e.g.).

B. Extraordinary Sessions of the National Council

As one of the specifically enumerated powers in the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution, the Principal Chief may call Extraordinary Sessions of the National Council as set forth in Article V § 4 of the Constitution. With regards to Extraordinary Sessions, it is the order of this Court that the parties shall agree upon fair and proper procedures and rules that shall be effectuated by the National Council within three (3) working days, or at such other times as the parties agree to after this Order, that will clarify with specificity the rules regarding the Principal Chiefs agenda for Extraordinary Sessions and his submission thereof. These rules and procedures shall enumerate specifically the actions that will take place at an Extraordinary Session including placement of agenda, voting procedures, and any other rule or stipulation the parties agree will help clarify the procedures involved in the Principal Chiefs constitutional power to call an Extraordinary Session.

C. Contracting on behalf of the Nation

Contracting on behalf of the Nation is an integral part of the success, stability and viability of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Each branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has the rights and powers consistent with the Constitution and this Court’s prior rulings to contract *on behalf of its own branch* for the proper running of day-to-day activities that help the government run efficiently. It is therefore the responsibility of *each* of the three branches to dutifully fulfill their obligations to the Nation when negotiating and contracting with outside entities on their own behalf.

With regards to contracts on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, it is the order of this Court that delineation of the powers given each branch under the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nations shall be respected and upheld. Therefore, the Principal Chief or his designee shall continue to have the primary responsibility to negotiate, execute and carry out contracts *on behalf of the Nation* with the exceptions limited by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution or by law. Further, the National Council shall continue to authorize, approve and fund contracts on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation except as limited by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution or by law. The respective branches are admonished that each has its own powers and shall remain faithful to the duties of their respective branches.

D. Subpoena Powers of the National Council

From time to time, the National Council or its subcommittees thereof may need .the advice, counsel, or knowledge of an individual not currently in its body of actors or before it. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code, allows for the National Council to request individuals to appear before it to answer questions. As currently enacted, the provisions of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code, Title 30 § § 3-104, 8-101 and 8-102 put serious constraints on individual employees and departments of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who respond to a request of the National Council or subcommittee to testify or give pertinent information on an issue before the National Council or subcommittee. United States case law recognizes the powers of Congress to investigate matters and call witnesses:

There can be no doubt as to the power of Congress, by itself or through its committees, to investigate matters and conditions relating to contemplated legislation. This power, deeply rooted in American and English institutions, is indeed co-extensive with the power to legislate. Without the power to investigate - including of course the authority to compel testimony, either through its own processes or through judicial trial -Congress could be seriously handicapped in its efforts to exercise its constitutional function wisely and effectively. (internal cites and footnotes omitted)

Quinn v. *US.*, 349 U.S. 155, 75 S. Ct. 668, 99 L. Ed. 964, 51 A.L.R.2d 1157 (1955).

SEE LEGAL - B7

SAM COOPER

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Sam Cooper were held at Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church on Feb. 25 with Reverends Wallace Gambler, Wilson Hicks, and Kenneth Cooper officiating.

Sam was born April 25, 1915 to Mr. and Mrs. Malley (Smith) Cooper.

He was a Youth Coordinator for Muscogee (Creek) Nation and an avid baseball fan which he enjoyed playing in his younger years. Later, Sam began organizing and coaching baseball teams in and around the Okemah area, until his health forced him to become a spectator of the sport.

Mr. Cooper was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include: nine children, Lillian of Midwest City, Roberta of Shawnee, Richard and Ray of Scottsdale, Arizona, Russell, Kelly, and Larry of Mesa, Arizona, Steve of Apache Junction, Arizona, and Sanford of Ft. McDonald Arizona.

Interment was held at the Cooper Family Cemetery.

RICHARD D. ELLIS, SR.

TWIN HILLS — Funeral services for Richard Ellis were held Feb. 28 at Conchartry Indian Methodist Church and were conducted by Reverend Newman Frank, Jr. with Mr. Levi On -The-Hill and Mr. K e e p e r Johnson officiating.

Richard was born July 27, 1920 to Doolie and Nellie Ellis.

He enlisted into the U.S. Army in 1942 and retired as Sergeant First Class in 1964 receiving several medals of honor. During his tour of duty he served in England, Sweden, Korea, Japan, and Hawaii.

Mr. Ellis was preceded in death by: his parents; three wives, Mary Jane Ellis, Doris Mae Ellis, and Willie Almo Ellis; one sister, Pandora Parsons; and two brothers, Willie and Jacob Ellis.

Survivors include: three children, Richard Ellis, Jr. of Oklahoma City, Deborah P. Ellis of Tulsa, and Ricky H. Ellis of Twin Hills; four siblings, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Dorothy Meyer, and Lillian Crow, all of Twin Hills, and Nellie Burke of Fort Worth, Texas; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and a host of other family and friends.

Interment was at the Fleetwood Bruner Family Cemetery.

LUCILLE (FIELDS) FACTOR

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Lucille Factor were held Feb. 24 at McClendon-Winters Funeral Home Chapel with Mr. A l f r e d Berryhill officiating.

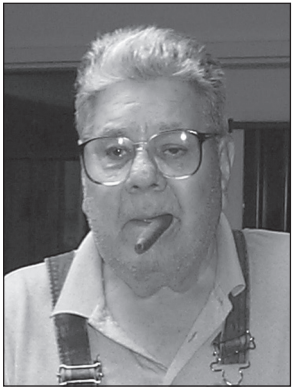
M r s . Factor was born January 4, 1923 to Tom and K i z z i e (Sugar) Fields and Elijah Haynes.

Lucille was a Ball Brothers Glass employee and a lifetime auxiliary member of the Okmulgee Memorial Hospital's Pink Ladies. Moreover, she was one of the founding members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Senior Gift Shop.

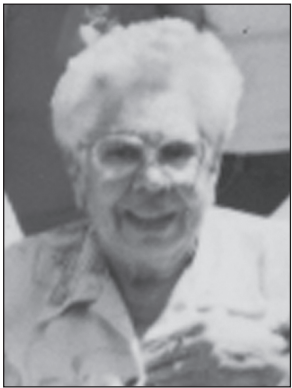
Lucille was preceded in death by her parents, Tom and Kizzie (Sugar) Fields.

Survivors included: her children, Cynthia Factor and Arlene Efurd, both of Beggs, Mike Factor of Kansas City, Missouri, and adopted son, Alfred Berryhill of Okmulgee; one brother, Johnson Fields of Texas; six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and two great-great grandchildren.

Interment was held at the Okmulgee Cemetery.



Ellis



Factor

NELSON LEE HARJO

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Nelson Harjo were held Feb. 25 at Sand Creek Indian Baptist Church with Reverend Harry Anderson officiating.

Nelson was born May 11, 1939 to Lewis “Doc” and Ella (Colbert) Harjo.

He grew up in the Wetumka area and was raised by his grandparents, Bunny and Betsy Harjo. Mr. Harjo graduated from Wetumka School. He attended two years of college at Bacone Indian College where he participated in sports. Basketball and track were his favorites along with participating in rodeos, as a bull rider.

He was preceded in death by: his grandparents; father, Lewis Harjo; and one brother, John Frank Bender.

Survivors include: wife, Conner Woolbright Harjo; mother, Ella Colbert Bender; two sons, Nelson Jr. “Bronco” Harjo of Whitesboro and Lance Wayne Harjo of Talihina; one daughter, Jannean Woolbright Thompson of Owasso; six grandchildren; 5 great grandchildren; brothers, Joe, Sam and George; eight sisters, Judith, Ann, Kendis, Alice, Betty, Debbie, Leah, Mary and Benella; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins.

Interment was held at the Harjo Family Cemetery.

HELEN HARLEY

HANNA — Funeral services for Helen Harley were held Feb. 24 at Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church with Reverend Nathaniel Harjo officiating.

Helen was born August 4, 1934 to Alex and Stella (Proctor) Harley.

She was a resident of Norman and a member of Trenton Indian Baptist Church.

Mrs. Harley was preceded in death by: her parents; five siblings, Dan, Alfred, Jonas, Stanley, and Pauline (Harley) Solomon; and one daughter, Nora Campos.

Survivors include: six children, Gary Harley, Stella Loving and Nettie Tiger, all of Oklahoma City, Joseph Harley and Wynett Tiger, both of Norman, and Annette (Hicks) Yargee of Checotah.

Interment was held at Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church Cemetery.

CY OSCEOLA JOHNSON, SR.

MORRIS — Funeral services for Cy Johnson were held Oct. 10 at Belvin Indian Baptist Church with Reverends Bo Johnson and Dave Long, Jr. officiating.

C y was born May 5, 1926 to Harbor and B e t t i e (McHenry) Johnson.

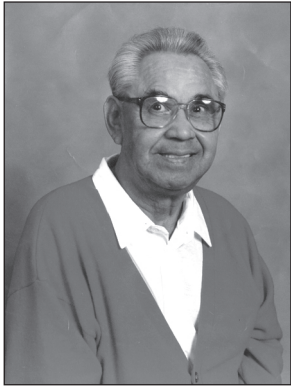
Upon graduation from high school, he served 12 years in the Army Air Corp., the U.S. Navy, and enlisted twice with the Marine Corp. After being honorably discharged from the military, he operated/owned Cy's Auto Parts of Morris.

Cy retired in Las Vegas, until recently moving back to reside in Tulsa, he was baptized and became a member of Fife Memorial Church of Muskogee.

Mr. Johnson was preceded in death by: his parents, Harbor and Bettie (McHenry) Johnson; his wife, Rose (Fields) Johnson; and four children, Paul Johnson, Daniel Brown, Phyllis Brown, and Beverly Grummitt.

Survivors include: eight children, Cy Johnson, Jr. of Tulsa, Solomon Johnson of Okmulgee, Joseph Johnson, George Johnson, Wanda Mills, and Geri Berryhill, all of Morris, Cynthia Johnson of California, and Jessina Torress of Dallas; ten siblings, Hugh C. “Ed” Johnson of Norman, Keeper Johnson, Sr. and Pat Wahnee, both of Morris, Bo Johnson and Dee Sloan, both of Okmulgee, Dorothy Ticeahkie, Charlene Navequaya, and Betty Neal, all of Lawton, Carolyn Niedo of Cyril, and Darlene Robertson of California; and numerous grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Interment was held at Big Cussetah Cemetery with Military graveside rites conducted by VFW Post 1189 of Okmulgee and VFW Post 539 of Henryetta.



Johnson

JOE LLOYD LOWE

DEWAR — Funeral services for Joe Lowe were held Feb. 22 at Silver Springs Indian Baptist Church with Reverend A.J. Tiger officiating.

Joe was born April 9, 1928 to Albert and Linnie (Richards) Lowe.

He lived in the Tiger Mountain/Pierce area his entire life and retired from Smithco of Tulsa.

Joe enjoyed fishing and was a member of Silver Springs Indian Baptist Church.

Mr. Lowe was preceded in death by: his parents; wife, Zeola (Napier) Lowe; two siblings, Sam Lowe and Ida Mae Hughes.

Survivors include: one stepdaughter, Melissa Stokes of Henryetta; five siblings, Hickman McIntosh of Dallas, Jerry R. Lowe of Eufaula, and Tommy R. Lowe of Rio Vista, California, Dorcas Tiger of Tiger Mountain, and Abbie Davis of Dewar; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Interment was held at Silver Springs Cemetery.

TILLIER WESLEY, JR.

WEATHERFORD, Texas — Funeral services were held Feb. 20 at the Central Baptist Church.

Tillier was born June 27, 1955 to Tillier and Mable Wesley.

He will be remembered as a self-taught Native American artist who won several awards at Red Earth and other various art shows across the United States. His artwork can be found at various museums, including the Cowboy Hall of Fame, Red Earth of Okla-

homa City, The Ford Foundation of Norman, Eiteljorg Museum of Indianapolis, Indiana, the Wichita Mid-America Museum of Wichita, Kansas, and the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian of Washington D.C.

Mr. Wesley was preceded in death by his parents, Tillier Sr. and Mable Wesley.

Survivors include: wife, Pamela Wesley; two children, Toyce and Micah Wesley; seven siblings, Rosco Davis, Randy Wesley, Janice Tom, Gladys Jeffries, Freda Leaf, Loretta Wesley, and Paula Wesley; and a host of other family and friends who truly love him and will miss him greatly.

Interment was held at the Spring Creek Memorial Cemetery of Bethany.

Gratitude

The Haney family would like to say “Thank You Everyone” for all your love and support during this difficult time following the passing of our son, brother, uncle, and friend, John A. Haney. We would like to give a special thanks to Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, our Uncle Tom and Coach Sparks who spoke at the wake services, and to Reverends Harjo and Jackson, and our Uncle Kelly who spoke at the funeral.

Our family also sends our love and prayers to all that have been a solid support for us during our time of need. There are no words that can express how much we greatly appreciate all of the love, support, and prayers you have shown us. God Bless You All. *MVTO!*

John A. Haney Family

Legal continued from B6

However, the Court in *Quinn* did not give Congress unrestrained powers, but recognized limitations: But the power to investigate, broad as it may be, is also subject to recognized limitations. It cannot be used to inquire into private affairs unrelated to a valid legislative purpose. Nor does it extend to an area in which Congress is forbidden to legislate. Similarly, the power to investigate must not be confused with any of the powers of law enforcement; those powers are assigned under our Constitution to the Executive and the Judiciary. Still further limitations on the power to investigate are found in the specific individual guarantees of the Bill of Rights, such as the Fifth Amendment's privilege against self-incrimination which is in issue here. *Id.*

This Court agrees with and adopts the reasoning of the United States Supreme Court on this issue in *Quinn*, which is consistent with this Court's rulings. There is no doubt that the National Council, in order to properly legislate for the Nation, needs additional information from time to time. Therefore, it is imperative that the process of calling witnesses and experts be allowed to continue amid Constitutional safeguards such as due process. It is incumbent upon, and hereby ordered that the National Council craft rules that safeguard every Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen or employee, regardless of position, from the contempt powers of the National Council unless a subpoena is specifically issued and due process is implemented. The language of those rules shall also recognize and address the strain on individual governmental departments caused by calling individuals to testify before the Council, and additional safeguards shall be put into place that minimize the loss of the employee's vital time from work of the Nation. Finally, appropriate language should be drafted that addresses the subjects of subpoena, testimony, and contempt proceedings against the Principal Chief and/or Second Chief consistent with laws on executive privilege. It follows that this Court holds that Title 30 § 3-1 04, 8-101 and 8-102 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code, as such sections pertain to the investigatory powers of the National Council, are hereby stricken as unconstitutional violations of individual rights to due process of law.

E. Office of Public Gaming Proceedings

The Office of Public Gaming is an independent office of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as so delineated in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Title 21, Section 1 1-108 et seq and in compliance with Title 16, Chapter 1, § 102. Further, the Office of Public Gaming is an Executive Branch entity and falls under the auspices of the Executive Branch's authority to appoint commissioners and set budgets. Federal regulations of the National Indian Gaming Commission mandate the independence of the Office of Public Gaming. We hold, therefore, that the Executive Branch and the National Council must abide by the federal regulations to keep the independence of the Office of Public Gaming from both executive and legislative influences.

At the trial of this matter, Defendant put forth Nelson Johnson, Commissioner of the Office of Public Gaming, to testify regarding alleged influence on his office by the National Council. This Court found Johnson's testimony, that he was not influenced by any member of the National Council, to be untruthful and unconvincing.

Therefore, this Court feels it necessary to admonish the National Council and the Principal Chief to refrain from influencing or directing the Office of Public Gaming except by way of amending the law that created and empowered said Office. Of utmost importance to the continued governance of this great Nation is the integrity of those who govern. It is, therefore, imperative that no member of the Executive Branch nor any member of the National Council nor any member of the Judicial Branch use his or her position to influence any Commissioner or independent board officer to gain any advantage for themselves or on behalf of another. At all times, those persons in positions of power and influence shall avoid even the appearance of impropriety in respect to the independence of the Commissioner in the performance of his or her duties.

F. Tobacco Negotiating Issues and Other Major Negotiations of the Tribe:

As discussed *supra*, the Principal Chief or his designee shall be primarily responsible to negotiate contracts that affect the economic integrity of the Nation. The National Council under the Separation of Powers doctrine as discussed *supra* does not have the power to “mandate” the Principal Chief to act or not act in a certain way in his official capacity as the Chief Executive Officer of this Nation. As pointed to *supra*, “the National Council shall have power (subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States of America) to *legislate on matters subject to limitations...*” (emphasis added).

A simple reading of the language of the Constitution indicates that the framers of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution envisioned a government where the legislature legislated: in other words, made laws for the Office of the Principal Chief to execute. Nowhere in the Creek Nation's Constitution does the language state or even imply that the National Council can mandate the Principal Chief to act or refrain from acting in his official capacity. This Court declares that TR 05-160 is unconstitutionally overbroad in restricting the powers of the Principal Chief to negotiate with other foreign officials and governments for the betterment of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and this Resolution is hereby stricken and shall immediately be considered null and void.

This Court is of the opinion that both the Office of the Principal Chief and National Council have duties to this Nation that must be fulfilled by working together for the advancement of the Muscogee people and the betterment of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. It is imperative that all of the branches of this government fulfill their constitutional obligations to its people. The Court does not and cannot address every issue of conflict that has surfaced or will surface between the Executive and Legislative branches of this government. However, the idea behind a system of checks and balances under a separation of powers is the restraint of mutual jealousy and indignation that one branch has more power than another. Each branch has its own powers, but each branch is accountable to the other, and more importantly to the Mvskoke people. All branches must coexist equally to continue to strengthen and build the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Sohfvckvt likes Okmulkee, Mvskoke Etlwv, Hotvle Hvse Pale-hokkolen, Ohrolope Cukpe rakko hokkolen epaken epakohkaken.

/s/ Larry L. Oliver, Chief Justice

/s/ Denette Mouser, Vice Chief Justice

/s/ Amos McNac, Justice

/s/ George Almerigi, Justice

/s/ Houston Shirley, Justice

HOT CORNER

by
JASON SALSMAN

OK, I’ve been holding the excitement in for quite some time now. It’s definitely time to let it out. March is finally here!

You’ll have to excuse my enthusiasm. You see, this is the month that reminds me why I love sports, not just those played on the professional stage, but all levels of competition. This is it, it really gets no better than this.

What March indicates is what every sports fan desires, a smorgasbord of different competitions to revel in. None being bigger than the pinnacle, the absolute staple of the month of March; the NCAA Tournament. The tournament, in my opinion, might be the greatest spectacle in all of sports. No other tournament in the world offers the excitement, entertainment and heart stopping action as much as this 65 team monster provides. What is so special about it you may ask? I say the fact that 65 teams no matter what kind of season they have had, all have a chance at the end to call themselves the national champion. It’s special because we would never otherwise remember that teams such as Valparaiso even exist. It’s special because the late Jim Valvano’s 1984 “never give up” North Carolina State Wolfpack defeated heavily favored Houston and “Phi Slamma Jamma” to make us believe in the underdog and that the biggest dreams can come true. I for one cannot wait to see what stories from this year’s chapter will splash the pages of history.

It’s a great time to be a baseball fan too. Spring Training gets in full swing with teams prepping themselves for the long, grueling 162-game baseball season. They get to escape their home fields and bask in the sunny rays and ocean view offered by Florida and the Grapefruit League, or they can bake in the desert of the Cactus League in Arizona. All told, every baseball fan should be excited because the month of March always ushers in another great season.

By the time this paper hits newsstands and homes the High School State basketball tournaments will be over and done with, but that doesn’t mean I can’t brag on them a little. Some of the best sports atmospheres in the world can be found at these high school slugfests. With each team playing like it might be their last game of the season, and for all but one of them it will be, it only enhances the adrenaline in the building. Gyms and arenas throughout the Oklahoma City metro are packed with fans and followers trying to will their squads to a Gold Ball. There’s nothing like walking into the Big House and feeling the energy from these games, it’s electrifying. If you don’t think it’s intense, then you have never been.

And one quick reminder, March is also the start of spring football. You want to act like there isn’t anybody out there who cares about football in March? Try and tell me that when you see 50,000 plus show up to watch Oklahoma in a spring game. I’m out!

March Madness Stronger Than Ever in Third Year

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — What started out years ago as an idea conceived by four friends has now become a three-year tradition in the month of March.

4 Love of the Game founders Lucas Taylor, B.J. Waggnor, David Pascale and Victor Bear probably never imagined their All-Indian March Madness Basketball Tournament would be what it is today, but they could not be more pleased.

“This is all for the kids,” said Taylor. “Growing up we never had opportunities like this, to showcase our talents with other Native kids on such a fun stage. We decided that there was no reason that we could not make it possible for this generation to have those kind of chances.” The tournament is much more than just basketball and skills competitions.

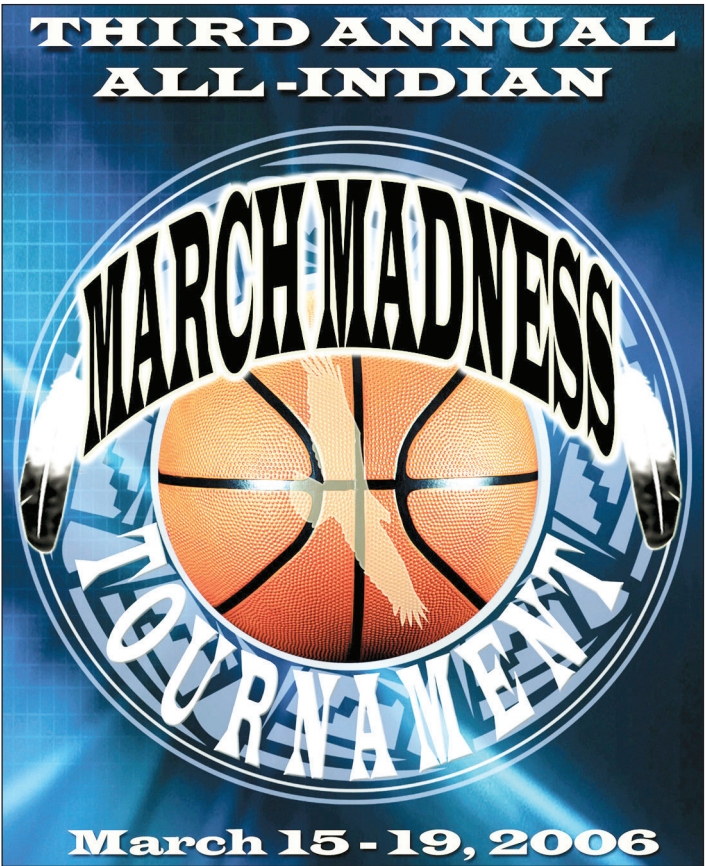
College workshops will be given, guest speakers will attend and there will be scholarships handed out at the conclusion of the weekend.

There will be some fun involved as well too, with a pizza party scheduled from Mazzio’s and a dance on Friday night.

Taylor talked about the past two years and how the tournament has progressed. “Each year since the first, everything seems to have stepped up a notch,” he said. “We’re very proud of the fact that

March Madness has continued to grow and get better and better. We didn’t want it to stay the same and be predictable because then the kids would lose interest.”

Speaking of growth, this tournament is beginning to outgrow the state. It’s not just Oklahoma teams that are being summoned to the Henryetta High School Gymnasium for some hoops action. Teams scheduled to make an appearance this year are coming from as far as Arizona, Idaho, Georgia, Florida and Mis-



issippi.

In addition to All-Star squads and MVP’s being chosen a team will be selected from the best players at the tournament to represent 4 Love of the Game at the All-West Tournament in Denver.

When talking about longevity, it is clear that March Madness certainly fits that mold. “We’re excited about where it continues to go,” added Taylor. “The future’s bright.”

March Madness Schedule of Events:

Wednesday, March 15

College Day, Henryetta High School

- 12:00 P.M.- 1:00 P.M. – Registration, pick up backpack and player pass.
- 1:00 P.M. – Welcome, Kyle Taylor, Native American Recruiter Bacone College
- 1:30 P.M.- 4:30 P.M. – College Prep Workshops.
- 4:30 P.M.- 5:00 P.M. – Guest Speaker
- 5:30 P.M.- 6:15 P.M. – Coaches Meeting; Schedule, Rules and Brackets.
- 6:15 P.M.- 9:00 P.M. – Mazzio’s Pizza/ Drinks; Welcome Party; Highlight Video; Guest Speaker; X-BOX NBA Street V3 Tournament Challenge.

Thursday, March 16

Pool Play, Henryetta High School

- 8:30 A.M.- 9:00 A.M. – Tournament Kick-Off Presentation.
- 9:00 A.M.- 10:00 P.M. – Pool Play

Friday, March 17

Pool Play/Special Events/East-West All-Star Games, Henryetta High School

- 9:00 A.M.- 3:00 P.M. – Pool Play
- 3:00 P.M.- 4:45 P.M. – Gym closed to prepare for Special Events and East/West All-Star Games.
- 5:00 P.M.- 7:00 P.M. – Three-Point Shootout, Team Ball, and Slam Dunk Contests.
- 7:00 P.M.- 9:00 P.M. – Girls’ and Boys’ East/West All-Star Games.
- 10:00 P.M.- Midnight – Dance held at Henryetta Inn and Dome.

Saturday, March 18

Henryetta High School

- 8:00 A.M.- 10 P.M. – Single elimination Tournament (March Madness Style).

Sunday, March 19

Henryetta High School

- Formal Awards Banquet
- 1:00 P.M.- 2:00 P.M. Dinner
- 2:00 P.M.- 3:00 P.M. All-Tournament Team Male and Female MVP’s Outstanding Offensive and Defensive Player Awards Announce selection of boys’ and girls’ teams for All-West Tournament (Denver) Scholarship Presentation (2) Bacone College Scholarships - Full Tuition for Four Years (2) George Tiger Family Haskell Indian Nations University Scholarships (2) \$1,000 Scholarships and (2) \$500 Scholarships (2) \$500 Red Sticks Society Scholarships Closing & Highlight Video

Haskell Icon Scotty Harjo leaves a lasting legacy

By Jason Salsman
MNN Reporter

LAWRENCE, Kansas — It is very rare in this world anymore to find selfless individuals. Those who put others above themselves and strive to truly make a difference in someone’s life, but that was Scotty Harjo, that was his passion.

Harjo passed away from this world on Wednesday, February 22 leaving behind a legacy that is sure to survive from generation to generation. That is what happens when you make a mark.

Harjo was a coach, friend and residential counselor for students at Haskell Indian Nations University for many

years. Years spent shaping the minds of Native youth and giving them a path.

Talk to any of those whose lives Harjo has touched and you get a sense of just how special this man was. “When I think of Haskell, I think of Scotty Harjo,” said Lucas Taylor, who attended Haskell and remembers his dear friend. “He really made it feel like home.”

He not only made it feel like home, for some he provided a home. When current



women’s head basketball coach Phil Homeratha came to Haskell as a student

in 1957 he was taken in by Scotty and his wife Esther. “I spent a summer with them, and they never charged me a thing,” he told NDNSports.com. “It wasn’t because they didn’t need the money, it was because they cared about me.”

Anyone wanting to pattern their life after this man has some awfully big shoes to fill. “There are no more Scotty Harjos,” Homeratha said. “We’ll never see another one like him.”

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Should the NCAA tournament field of 65 teams be extended to add more?



In this hard, cynical world that we live in, its still always nice to see an underdog get an opportunity and make the most of it.

Symbolically, that’s what we see when the NCAA basketball tournament comes around in

March. With the expansion of added teams, we get a chance to see a team that no one knows about. Although it is true that the odds are very unlikely that these underdog or lower seeded teams will advance to the championship, but it certainly grabs everyone’s attention when an unknown does advance a little, that’s why we liked the movie ‘Hoosiers’ so much.



up as a sacrificial lamb to powerhouses like Duke and Connecticut in

Absolutely not! If you ask me, I think it should not have as many teams as it does. What good comes out of a lowly 16 seed being offered

the first round. The 16 seed has never won, and guess what they never will. The 15 seed has trouble as well, only winning a handful of games in the tournament’s history. I like upsets as much as the next man, but teams serious about making a run need the extra rest and shouldn’t be concerned with those games. They don’t need to worry about steamrolling weaker opponents in the opening rounds.



Tulsa Indian Art Festival displays Creek Art



Gaming updates with Tulsa & Okmulgee Casinos



Midway goes all the way in offering delicacies.



Carlisle story set to hit Silver Screen

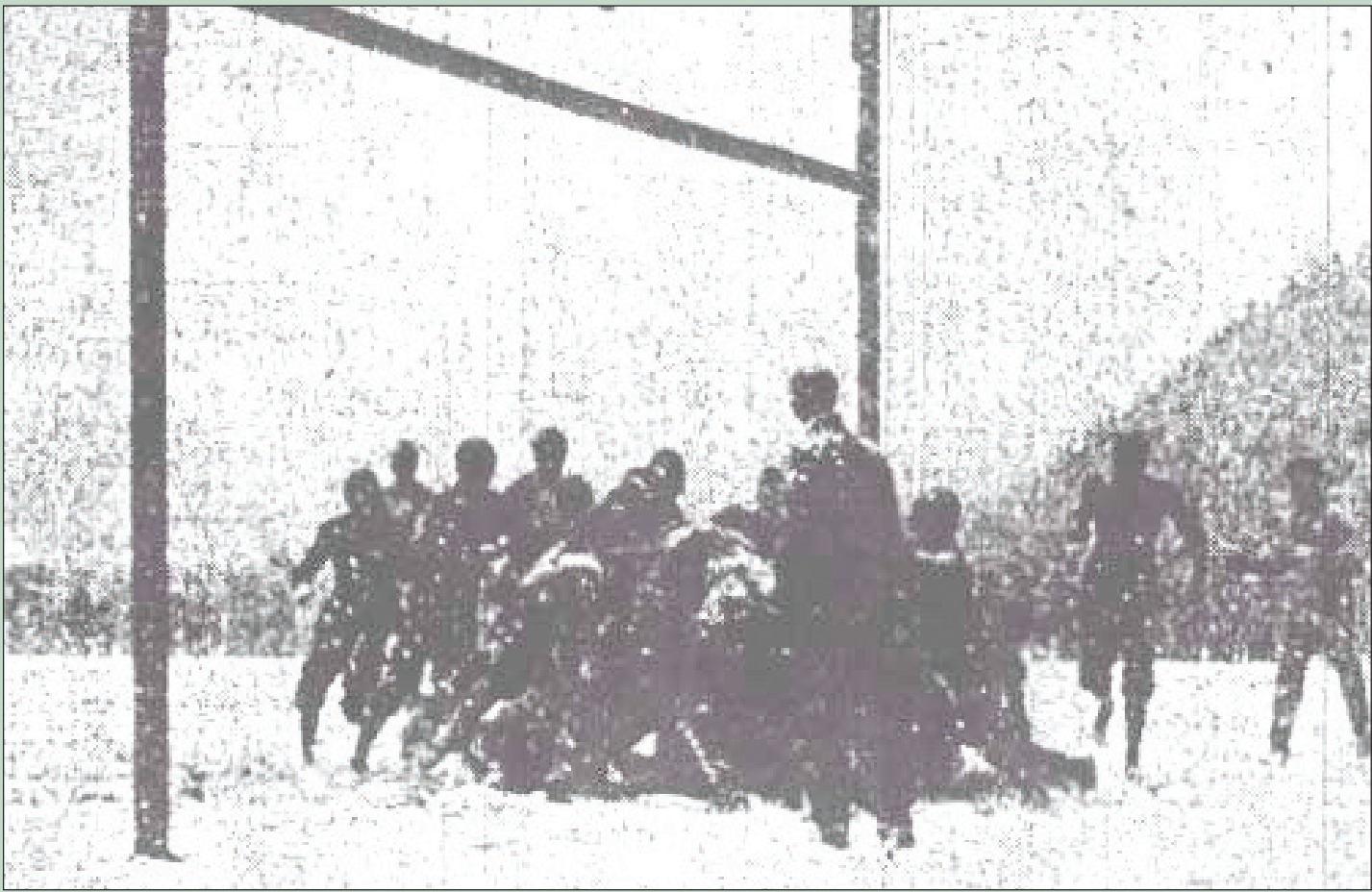
LOS ANGELES (Hollywood Reporter) — Oscar-nominated cinematographer John Schwartzman will make his directorial debut on the pigskin movie “Carlisle School.”

The film tells the true story of a ragtag team of American Indian football players, led by future sports legend and Olympic gold medallist Jim Thorpe. The men attended the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, a boarding school in Pennsylvania that from 1879-1918 housed American Indians from childhood through college. The men overcame long odds in the early part of the 20th century to defeat some of the best college football teams in the nation.

Mark Ciardi and Gordon Gray, the duo behind the sports-themed movies *Miracle* and *The Rookie*, are producing the project for Walden Media with John Fusco and Jim Crabbe.

Schwartzman, one of Hollywood’s most respected directors of photography, was nominated for an Oscar for his work on 2003’s *Seabiscuit* and won the American Society of Cinematography’s ASC Award for outstanding achievement in cinematography for the film. Among his other big-screen credits are *Pearl Harbor*, *Armageddon*, *The Rock* and *Conspiracy Theory*.

In the early 1900s — perhaps with the exception of Major League Baseball — College Football was the most popular and beloved sport throughout the United States. Among the nation's elite programs



Carlisle Indian School and Nebraska University battle it out on the gridiron in this archive photo.

were the perennial powerhouse Ivy League Schools, Army (West Point) and, most surprising of all, the Carlisle Indian School of Pennsylvania. Under the direction of Coach "Pop" Warner and led by legendary halfback and Olympic champion, Jim Thorpe, the Carlisle football team battled not only their gridiron opponents but also the institutionalized racism of the Carlisle Indian School, the US Government, and the era. Against incredible odds and obstacles, both on and off the field, the

Indian football team put together a string of spectacular seasons, culminating in glorious victories over Harvard in Cambridge and Army at West Point. The Indians versus the Harvard intellectual elite and the US Military is the perfect microcosm of the battles that had been waged for centuries in the classrooms and plains across America.

Author Joseph Bruchac, drawing from his Native American heritage, has authored more than 70 books for adults and children; his po-

ems, articles, and stories have appeared in over 500 publications; and as a professional teller of traditional tales of the Adirondacks and the Native People of the Northeast Woodlands. Only a storyteller with Joseph Bruchac's background, wisdom, and skill can do justice to the amazing, often heartrending chronicle of Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indians as told in Walden Media's fist publishing offering *Jim Thorpe: Original All-American*.

Restless Natives Motion Production Company prepares casting call

OKLAHOMA CITY — Restless Natives Motion Picture Company is casting for a feature to be shot in April, 2006.

Six Pack and Gas Money is an action story about brotherly and family love. It’s a story of two brothers, Michael and Dennis, who grow up living two completely different lives. Where Michael is a success, Dennis is slipping into drugs. Michael does his best to protect Dennis, but when Xavier, the drug kingpin, causes problems for both, things get complicated.

CAST BREAKDOWN: YOUNG MICHAEL (age 7-14) - Michael as a child. Native American. Please e-mail us for sides before the audition. YOUNG DENNIS (age 7-14) - Dennis as a child. Native American. Please e-mail us for sides before the audition. JUSTIN (age 25-30) - Best friend of the main character, Michael. He is a co-owner of a club and is a very close friend of Pat. Justin and Pat mostly work together. PAT (age 25-30) - Also a best friend of Michael. Also co-owns the club and is close friend of Justin. Justin and Pat mostly work together. XAVIER (age 30 or over) - Large tough guy. Imagine Kingpin from Daredevil or Marsellus Wallace from Pulp Fiction. He’s the drug lord of the city. He’s the bad guy. He has a presence that can cause even the most

confident man to be timid. CAROL (age 21-30) - Love interest of Michael. She’s the nice girl who is the backbone of her man. She’s a waitress/assistant manager at the club and is witty and wise. Prefer her to be of an ethnic background. MANDY (age 18-30) - stripper/girlfriend of Dennis. She’s addicted to drugs. She is lost, but will soon get back on her feet again. Think Brittany Murphy’s character from ‘8 Mile’. COLLECTOR 1 - Money collector for another mob boss. Tough guy who’s not afraid of anything. COLLECTOR 2 - Money collector for another mob boss. Tough guy who’s not afraid of anything. EXTERMINATOR - The baddest of the bad. He should be the toughest man alive. He’s a boxer and a hired

muscle. Must be in good physical condition. MAIN MAN - XAVIER’s right hand man. UNK (older gentleman) - Big American Indian Man. The uncle of Michael and Dennis. He’s a tough Indian who has a big heart. GIRLFRIEND - Overweight girlfriend. She wants her man to stand up for her, but think he’s weak. Actress must be secure with a movie character calling her fat. (Does not need to audition, but can send headshot/resume) JOHNNY - XAVIER’s accountant. He’s a Steve Buscemi-type character. BIG LOU - Overweight male. Has a few lines. He’s one of Xavier’s homeboys. There are other parts for other characters. All are encouraged to audition. Also needing extras for additional scenes (preferably 18 or over).

Also seeking crew. The characters Michael and Dennis are already cast.

Auditions were held at these locations: Moore Public Library, 225 South Howard, Moore, OK 73160. Feb. 16th (Thurs.) 5:30 pm - 8:30 p.m. There will be a sign with the word “Audition”. It will tell you which meeting room we’ll be having the auditions in. Fred Jones Art Center In the School of Art 520 Parrington Oval (SW corner of Boyd and University) Room B17. March 3, 2006 (4:30 pm - 7:30 pm).

If you weren’t able to make audition, you may send headshot/resume, and if possible, reel to: Restless Natives MPPC, 121 24th Ave. NW, Suite 100, Norman, OK 73069.

Movies at a Glance

The man in black comes back to life on the big screen in the critically acclaimed biopic, *Walk the Line*.



In the film country music icon Johnny Cash is immortalized by Joaquin Phoenix. The initial stages of the movie start out slow, much like Johnny’s career, with Phoenix really not able to capture the essence or the voice of the famed singer. But as he reaches the stage and the big time his portrayal of the timeless rebel takes flight. The movie’s plot is centered on Cash falling in love with fellow entertainer and tour partner June Carter, played brilliantly

by Reese Witherspoon. Witherspoon traps the charm and country girl persona that made June one of rural America’s earliest sweethearts. Much like the film *Ray* did for Ray Charles, this picture also touches on the dark side of the entertainment industry, focusing on Cash’s constant struggle and eventual triumph with drug abuse. When rating this film I would say that not only did it “walk the line” it went the extra mile.



Ted Isham
Creek Council House Musuem Curator

This month’s article will be dealing with preservation issues. Questions that come to mind when the word ‘preservation’ is used are, “what is preservation and what does that word mean to me?” Once these two questions are investigated and answered, the process of raising awareness and the act of preserving can begin. Without preservation efforts, we would not know about our important events or places of history. We could not lay claim to events that have happened to us without actual evidence of these events. Documents, places/ sites and oral tradition intersect to tell the stories of who our ancestors were and who we are. Preservation is the overt effort to save or keep safe, for as long as possible, the objects, memory, places of significance and the teachings of our past. Ideally, we would like to preserve things forever, but maybe this is an unrealistic goal, so we try to preserve things for as long as possible.

Last month we talked about the Creek Council House Museum as an object of preservation; now we will talk about other places and sites that may be worth our thoughts. As we save for the future we are reminded of all the collective knowledge that is before us as Creeks today, and how much of that knowledge may have been lost. We thank those that have thought of us by

saving some aspect of the history either in oral traditions, photographs, and documents or in the places and sites that they lived. If our ancestors did not make conscious efforts to preserve things from their daily lives, there are things we would not know about today. It is with this concept that we also think about the future.

The preservation efforts of the collections and site of the Creek Council House Museum are among the many instances throughout the Creek Nation that helps us in maintaining our Creek identity. There are many places and sites that hold the keys to telling our history here in Oklahoma and in the original homelands back east. With the upcoming centennial celebrations of the state of Oklahoma it is a time to reflect on



Levering Mission, Wetumka Oklahoma

what we, as Creeks, have to celebrate. It turns out that we as Creek people had much to bring to the table in 1907 in the formation of the new state of Oklahoma, as we were here long before the Land Run.

The history of the Creek Nation in Indian Territory is filled with many examples of perseverance and survival. This is a testament to our ancestors who made the trek across the Southern US to the Indian Territory. Think of our *Este catvlke* with the churches and

camphouses and the ceremonial grounds and camps— our predecessors reestablished them here from Georgia and Alabama. Many of these sites are still active today. It would be very sad to allow the stories of our ancestors to be forgotten by negligence on our part. The history of this state could not be told without including the history and places of our people. Some of the better-known sites and places of Muscogee (Creek) history in the state of Oklahoma, formerly Indian Territory include Creek Council House Museum, Okmulgee Ok; Nuyaka Mission, Nuyaka Ok; Creek Orphans Home, Okmulgee Ok; Levering Mission, Wetumka Ok; Eufaula Boarding School, Eufaula Ok; Euchee Institute, Sapulpa Ok; Tullahassee Mission, near Muskogee Ok; Old Council Grounds, near Council Hill Ok; Council Oak Tree site, Tulsa Ok; Family grave sites; Chief’s burial sites; Checote, Okmulgee Ok; Ispaheche, Beggs Ok; Moty Tiger, Okmulgee Ok.

The responsibilities for the identification, and care of historic sites and places belongs to many groups and is undertaken for the benefit of our descendants. The various groups to be involved are; the tribe, the individual and the museum as an institution exclusively dedicated to the mission of preservation. The tribe can initiate such public works projects that include taking care of former Chief’s graves, the acknowledgment of historic sites and developing a national policy dedicated to saving our history or historical sites. Individuals can be involved in preservation efforts by asking to be acknowledged in a public forum and by conducting best care practices that help lengthen the life of personal objects and sites. This is accomplished by taking classes that teach such

skills. The museum can assist in preservation efforts by making the information available, by conducting workshops for the general public, by showcasing the collection that pertains to a site or place and by being an information resource. Together these efforts will insure that our histories will not be lost. This is seen in the preservation efforts that have helped save the Council House from destruction many times in its history, our history. We thank all those visionary individuals, such as Will Rogers and many other ordinary citizens who helped save the Creek Council House (*Mvskoke Etlvhw Nakfvtetv Coko*). *Mvto cekicvkees ci!Mvtekosan makaranis ci!*



Upcoming art shows

Art Under the Oaks

TULSA — The Art Under the Oaks Art Show will be held April 2 - 30, at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum, 1101 Honor Heights Drive. Awards and Reception will be April 2 at 2:00 pm in the Museum Gallery. For more information call (918) 683-1701.

Indian Art Market and Festival

MUSKOGEE — The Indian Art Market and Festival will be held April 22 - 23 at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum, 1101 Honor Heights Drive. The market and festival will be open to the public between 10:00 am until 5:00 pm. For more information call (918) 683-1701. **If you would like to advertise your upcoming art show e-mail your information to: cbrown@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.**

Tulsa Indian Art Festival displays Creek talent

TULSA —True art will always sustain itself. The beautiful fact about a work of art is that it only needs itself to be a masterpiece, outside factors cannot affect it’s power and significance. That point could not be more proven than at this year’s Tulsa Indian Art Festival.

“Snow, sleet and ice could not deter the Festival’s 20 year celebration. The turnout was less than expected , but was surprisingly good considering the weather conditions. The snow outside helped create a party atmosphere inside the Tulsa Event Center..” Said Fran Kimmel the TIAF Director. “Arvel Bird’s fiddle playing rocked the room as the 65 exhibiting artists visited with customers and with each other. Artists and volunteers gathered in the hospitality room to enjoy the many snacks provided by volunteer, Peggy Char. Muscogee (Alabama Corsadee) / Cherokee, Will Hill and Geninne Washington, Cherokee, Yuchi Seminole, of Mahenwahdose gave outstanding performances that kept the audience completely engaged.

The Tulsa Indian Art Festi-

val is an all volunteer network sponsoring scholarships in visual and performing arts to qualified American Indian students. Buffalo Gouge of Santa Fe, New Mexico won a scholarship in 1993 and was one of the exhibiting artists.

The TIAF committee was exceptionally pleased with the overall show. The quality of the artwork was exceptional, the layout of the room created a warm and inviting atmosphere and attendance was good in spite of the weather. Proving that it is never to early to look ahead, plans are already underway for the 21st Annual Tulsa Art Festival to be held in 2007.

The Tulsa Indian Art Festival also

featured quality entertainment with fun events such as the performance from Will Hill a n d M a g i c S h o w provided by Sandy Rhodes, other performers included K a t h y Dickerson, Pauline Haney, A r v e l Bird / Singing W o l f

Records. A art workshop was held by Robbie McMurtry and demonstrations by Randi Narcomey were provided.

Many Creek artists displayed their art in various styles of the Creek Culture.

Jon Tiger, an award winning Mvskoke (Creek) artist displayed his art in acrylic, watercolor, prisma pencil, and other various methods.

Jon is a member of the Raccoon Clan of the Red or Warrior Town of Eufaula-Canadian Tribal Town and a member of the West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church. To understand and appreciate

the beauty of this art, one would have to consider the surroundings and the r e - sources that nature provided to the early artists. T h e South-western area of t h i s country was divided by rivers a n d tributaries which supported the many native tribes in these area. Natural resources which included fiber from trees and plants, clay from river banks and wood from surrounding forest were used by these people. A number of artists who participated in the 20th Tulsa Indian Art Festival were still using these natural resources to create some of the magnificent art work which was on display and for sale.

The snow and ice continued to fall throughout this years Tulsa Indian Art Festival, but spirits remained lifted.



Creek artist Mary Howard discusses art with public.



Creek artist Jon Harjo displays art.



TulsaPromotions



Casino Promotions

100,000 SHOWERS OF CASH – PICK YOUR PAYDAY

Most casino promotions happen at the same time, on the same day of the week. Creek Nation Casino realizes these days and times don’t always fit into your schedule, so we are letting you pick your payday during our “\$100,000 Showers of Cash” promotion. Swipe your Players Club card daily and choose from four different daily drawing times to place your entry. Ten winners will be selected at each drawing time for \$150 in cash plus a chance to return on Thursday for the weekly Grand Prize drawings for \$2,000! Each week’s daily winners will be invited back to Finals Week and on Thursday, April 27, we will give away \$3,000, \$5,000, and \$10,000 in cash!

MEN’S NIGHT - Wrangler Wednesdays

Men, there is no better way to warm up to nicer weather than in a brand new Jeep, so don’t miss Creek Nation Casino’s “Wrangler Wednesdays.” Start swiping your Players Club cards at 6 pm for your chance at half-hour cash drawings from 7 pm to 10 pm for a total of \$2,500 in cash. Plus, two lucky men each week will win \$500 and a key that could possibly start the 2006 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited on April 26. (Wednesdays starting at 6 pm, March 1 - April 26).

LADIES NIGHT - Girls Just Wanna Have Fun

With Creek Nation Casino’s new “Girls Just Wanna Have Fun” Ladies Night promotion, you could definitely be turning some heads as you drive away in a brand new 2006 Pontiac Solstice Convertible. Join us for half-hour cash drawings from 7 pm to 10 pm totaling \$2,500. And at 10 pm, two lucky ladies

will win \$500 and a key that could start the 2006 Pontiac Solstice on April 24! (Mondays, starting at 6 pm, Through April 24).

TORNADO TUESDAYS

Join us at Creek Nation Casino every Tuesday for Tornado Tuesdays, featuring hourly \$1,000 cash drawings starting at 6 pm. Receive entries by playing any Rocket machines for every \$20 deposited. If the prize is not claimed after three minutes, the \$1,000 will roll over to the next drawing. And at 10 pm each Tuesday, all money must go! (Tuesdays starting at 5 pm, March 7 – April 25).

IF YOU SNOOZE, YOU LOSE...

Having trouble sleeping? Or are you a night owl? Head down to Creek Nation Casino for our new late night promotion! Swipe in at Guest Services starting at 11 pm every Sunday through Wednesday in March for \$150 drawings from 12 am –3 am and a final drawing at 4 am for \$400!

SENIORS WAKE UP AND WIN

Seniors, rise and shine at Creek Nation Casino Mondays through Thursdays. From 9 am to 1 pm (starting April 3rd Monday & Tuesdays only), our valued senior guests will receive \$5 free play and complimentary breakfast at our Jackpot Café. What better way to start the day than with Creek Nation Casino’s Wake Up and Win promotion.

MARCH MONEY MADNESS (NCAA TOURNAMENT)

The only way to make March more exciting at Creek Nation Casino is to throw in some money to go along with

all the buzzer beaters and hot basketball action. Each week during March Madness players may register their bracket picks at Guest Services. The person with the most amount of correct picks at the end of the Tournament will win \$5,000! Second place will win \$1,500 and third place will win \$1,000. (March 13 through April 3).

Poker Promotions

WORLD SERIOUS OF POKER TOURNAMENT – Qualify daily through June 27 to win a seat in the World Series of Poker! Qualify for the playoffs in June by winning a regularly scheduled tournament in March, April or May.

THE BIG BOUNTY POKER TOURNAMENT

Play in The Big Bounty, our newest No Limit Hold’em Tournament every Thursday and Sunday at 7 pm and receive an extra \$20 for every player you eliminate! Registration begins at 6:30 pm and is open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$115.

DAILY RIVER SHOWDOWN

Pull up a seat in Oklahoma’s most upscale Poker Room for our Daily River Showdown tournaments starting at 9 am. Registration begins at 8:30 am and is open to everyone, with a total buy-in of just \$30.00.

LADIES TEXAS HOLD’EM TOURNAMENTS

Ladies Night Texas Hold’em tournaments start at 7 pm every Monday. Registration begins at 6:30 pm and is

open to all ladies, with a total buy-in of just \$30.00.

MEN’S NIGHT – THE BIG ONE POKER TOURNAMENT

The Big One, Creek Nation Casino’s Men’s Night no-limit Texas Hold’em tournament starts at 7 pm every Wednesday, with registration beginning at 6:30 pm (\$115 total buy-in).

TEXAS HOLD’EM PROGRESSIVE BAD BEAT JACKPOTS

Losing Never Felt So Good! Creek Nation Casino’s new Progressive Bad Beat Jackpots consist of three separate progressive jackpots awarded to hands of aces full of jacks losing to a better hand.

TEXAS HOLD’EM HIGH HANDS

Good hands are hard to come by, and at Creek Nation Casino, Texas Hold’em high hands pay bonuses 24 hours a day, seven days a week with progressive bonuses on four of a kind, straight flush, and royal flush hands increasing \$100 a day.

Blackjack Promotions

PAYDAYS OF SPADES

Receive a suited spaded Blackjack and win a bonus of \$25 during our Paydays of Spades promotion. With our now famous Envy Bonus, each player at the table who is actively betting will be awarded a bonus matching his or her original bet, up to \$10. Other great bonuses include: 7-7-7 of Spades- \$150; 6-7-8 of Spades-\$100. (24 hours a day, seven days a week).

OkmulgeePromotions

VIP BIRTHDAY REWARD

If you have a Birthday in February, stop by our promotion desk and register by March 25. Then come in at 7 pm on the 25th and receive a \$10 Free Play and a Birthday Cupcake.

LUCK OF THE IRISH

Come in on St. Patrick’s Day and keep your eyes peeled for our Lucky Leprechaun. This flighty little creature will be making random appearances throughout the casino with various goodies for those lucky enough to catch it. Friday, March 17, starting at 2:00 p.m.

4 DAY BONUS HANDS

Hit a bonus hand while playing our table games and get a free Bonus Hand T-shirt and entry into a drawing for a gift basket of logo items along with \$25 in chips, to be held Thursday, March 30 at 10:00 p.m.

BEAT THE MANAGER

When you come in on Sunday evenings, be sure to swipe your Cache Card. Every half hour we will draw a contestant to beat one of our Managers at a basketball shoot-out for various prizes.

HUNDRED DOLLAR BUMPER

Swipe your Cache Card between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. every Sunday

and Wednesday and if your vehicle has our Creek Nation Casino bumper sticker on it, you could win \$100 cash. Drawings held at 6:00 p.m.

SPIN THE WHEEL

Participants that receive a Bonus Hand on a Blackjack or Poker Table will receive a chance to spin our prize wheel loaded with a variety of cash prizes. In honor of St. Patrick’s Day, Club suited Blackjack’s will be seen as a bonus hand.

Bonus hands consist of 6, 7, 8, (suited or unsuited); 7,7,7, (suited or unsuited); & 5 Card Charlie. Poker Bonus Hands consist of a Flush to a Royal Flush.

Sundays and Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m. to close.

VIP SENIORS

Each week we celebrate our Senior Citizen guests by offering the first 100 participants, a \$5 free play. Simply swipe your Cache Card for the free play and you will also be entered into drawings held every half hour for \$10. There will also be a 2:00 p.m. drawing for \$25. Starting at 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Must be 50 years of age or over.

BASKETBALL BLOWOUT

To get you into the March Madness mood we are giving the first 25 people to swipe their Cache Card a

CNCO Mini-Basketball and an entry into hourly drawings for \$10 free plays as well as a drawing at 5:00 pm. for \$500. Tuesdays, 12:00 Noon - 5:00 p.m.

LADIES AND MENS

Join us each Monday and Tuesday for our Ladies’ and Men’s Nights. The first 100 participants to swipe their Cache Card will receive a \$5 Match Play and an entry into drawings held at 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00 p.m. or \$25 and another entry for a \$50 to be held at 10:00 p.m.

EVERY DAY IS A PAYDAY

Be one of the first 25 participants to swipe your Cache Card and receive a delicious Payday candy bar and a \$5 Match Play.

Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

BIRTHDAY BONANZA

Find our Birthday Bonanza board in the casino and you may have won a prize. Each Wednesday we will post random dates on this board and depending on how much of your birthday matches the dates posted you can win logo items, a \$5 match play, or \$25 in cash.

TIME IS MONEY

Swipe your Cache Card to enter into drawings held every hour for \$25

from 11 :00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Everyone who enters the weekly promotion will be entered into a Grand Prize Drawing to be held on April 3rd at 3:00 p.m. for a Grandfather Clock in honor of Daylight Savings Time.

MIDWAY WEDNESDAY

We are having hot seat drawings every twenty minutes each Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Each hot seat winner will receive a logo’d item and will then have their Cache Card swiped and will be entered into a drawing for \$25 to be held at 3:00 p.m.

LATE NIGHT FUN

Thursdays, Midnight - 2:00 a.m.. Here’s a promotion for all the insomniacs out there. Be one of the first 25 participants to swipe their Cache Card and receive a free \$5.00 match play. After all, if you’re awake, you might as well be having fun.

SWIPE INTO SPRING

Swipe your Cache Card once per day to be entered for a final drawing to be held on March 20th. Drawings will be held every hour from 10:00 a.m. to 10 p.m. on the 20th.

March 1 - 20 with final drawing 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. March 20.

Midway Store goes all the way in offering delicacies

DEWAR — This page that we call ‘food review”, is usually reserved for places of decor that are traditionally known as “sit down” places. You know, restaurants and cafes that you go to and order a meal or dish and enjoy it there. But in this case, we have broke the line of tradition and ventured out just a little bit and wanted to bring you, the reader, a different type of food and a different type of setting.

The busy route that Oklahomans know as Highway 75 is busting at the seams with numerous eateries. Travelers can choose between truckstops, mom and pop shops, and national franchise burger joints, so its always nice to see a little place just off the beaten path that offers tasty food at reasonable prices, but is disguised as a gas station.

As you arrive from the north into Henryetta, Oklahoma, the home of Dallas



Cowboy great Troy Aikman and Rodeo Champion Jim Shoulders as the welcome sign mentions, you notice that just to the east, after you come to the first set of stop lights, a Conoco gasoline station. Nothing really different from the outside that makes the station stand out from say, any other fuel station found along the highways of America.

Midway Grocery Calizone Food Review *by Suzie Joki*

A calizone is sometimes referred to as a stuffed pizza, it is an Italian turnover made of pizza dough and stuffed with mozzarella cheese, or even monterey jack cheese, meat, vegetables, etc.

The dough is folded over, sealed along one edge and baked in an oven and often served with marinara sauce (a sauce similar to tomato sauce). Calizones are a relative specialty in most Western countries, often being served as a complement to pizza, and stands alone as a meal.

As I sat down to devour this round piece of bread with the aroma of garlic, I ask myself, “I wonder what this is going to taste like?” Not being a fan of sausage I was concerned that it being mixed in other ingredients would somehow effect my perception of how it would taste. I wanted to approach this meal without reservation. To my surprise this round loaf of bread that was stuffed with sausage, cheese, pepperoni and topped with butter and garlic was delicious it made my taste buds come alive. The combination of these foods had a rich taste with cheese being the prominent flavor. I enjoyed the calizone and felt like I had a very satisfying lunch. I did leave the meal needing a mint from the garlic, a small price to pay for a great lunch!



But once you step inside, the store takes on a life of its own. The market is filled with all the standard snacks items that a hungry or thirsty traveler may request, but venture in a little further and you discover a glass case filled with all kinds of hot, and tempting food choices.

The crew at Midway doesn’t just ring up the total at the cash register and say “Have a nice day”, but are actually trained in cooking up such various tasty treats. The customer will find the standard food staples such as hamburgers, and hot dogs, which are very good, but then the menu takes on a life of its own as unique items such as the ‘nachoritos’ are offered. These are neatly packed little burritos stuffed with cheese and jalapeno peppers. Midways also offers burritos with beef and bean inside.

Another popular local favorite is the chicken strips that seem to be a mainstay of Midway which also features a deli that contains all the standard choices of cold cuts and lunch meat.

Popcorn chicken is also uniquely made with Midway’s secret herbs and spices and the corndogs are also cooked the only way that Midway manager/owner Doug Wadley would have them.

Pizza can also be ordered from the menu as well as calzones, both products of Simple Simons. These products may come from Simple Simons but the employees of Midway prepare these products and are made to order for the customer.

Midway grocery and deli is located in Dewar just east of Highway 75 on Highway 266 and is open everyday from 5:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.

Fresh Picked
Spring 2006

Naturally pretty lips, dew-licious lips and a fresh flush are yours for the picking. Come in and see the best of the bunch!

18 Oak Street ~ Eufaula, OK 74432
(918)618-4301

Selina Jayne-Dornan/Owner
Muscogee (Creek) Citizen

Merle Norman Cosmetics Studios have been independently owned and operated since 1931sl

MERLE NORMAN

5th Annual

“TO BRIDGE A GAP CONFERENCE”

March 22-24, 2006

Green Country Technology Center
1100 Hwy 56 ~ Okmulgee, OK 74447

This conference is to strengthen relationships between the federally recognized Tribal Governments and the USDA Forest Service who have a mutual interest in managing the cultural, natural and social resources of our National Forests

Keynote Speaker for the Banquet on
March 23, 2006
will be Muscogee (Creek) Citizen
John Beaver, Repatriation Program Specialist
Smithsonian, National Museum of the American Indian
For more information including registration please contact
MCN Cultural Preservation Department:
Joyce Bear (918)732-7731,
email: preservation@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
or Johnnie Jacobs at (918)732-7648,
email: jjacobs@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

HUD - 184 Native American Mortgage Program*

Need Cash Refinance*

Other Programs also available - 100% financing/no money down*

GOOD CREDIT, BAD CREDIT OR BANKRUPTCY WE CAN HELP

Special Native American Financing Department

*Bilingual. Call today to qualify. Ask for a 184 Loan Officer.. *W.A.C..*

HOMESTEAD
Mortgage Services, Inc.

“Tahlequah’s oldest and most experienced lender”

171 W. Fourth Street - Tahlequah, OK 74464

Office: (918)456-5599
Cell: (918)348-1074
Toll Free:(800)259-2455